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RE DOLENT

SANDYWELL, ON THE IRWELL, SALFORD.

From an anonymous water-colour drawing, attributed to Girtin, included in the Old Manchester Exhibition, 1904, and now the property of the Old Manchester Committee.

TRANSACTIONS

OF THE

LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE

ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY.

VOL. XXII.—1904.

MANCHESTER:

RICHARD GILL, TIB LANE, CROSS STREET.

1905.

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This volume is edited by Mr. Charles W. Sutton.

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May 14th -	- Macclesfield.
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July 16th -	- Blackstone Edge.
July 25th -	- Denton Old Chapel and Hyde Hall, Denton.
August 13th	- Wincobank, and Weston Park Museum, Sheffield.
August 27th	- Mottram St. Andrew and Alderley Edge.
October 8th	- Wilderspool, near Warrington.
November 12th -	Agecroft Hall, Pendlebury.

Meetings for the reading of Papers, Discussions, and Exhibition of Antiquities were held monthly during the Winter Session in the Chetham College, Manchester. For six weeks in the spring an Old Manchester Exhibition was held in the Art Gallery.

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THE POSTILION.

Copy Woodcut in *Whitworth's Manchester Magazine*, 23rd Jan., 1738/9.

BEGINNINGS OF THE MANCHESTER POST-OFFICE.

BY C. ROEDER.

THE development of our post-office is so intimately interwoven with the rise of the town, as a centre of commerce, and the simultaneous growth of the great system of high roads, that treatment of one cannot be excluded from a cursory consideration of the other. I have, therefore, to refer to all of them *seriatim* in the course of my account.

A Glimpse of Manchester in 1542.

The first definite reference is towards the middle of the sixteenth century, *temp.* Henry VIII., when a statute, passed 1542, tells us that "Manchester is well inhabited for its trade, both in linen and woollen; the inhabitants have obtained riches and wealthy livings and have employed many artificers and poor folks, causing by their strict and true dealing the resort of many strangers from Ireland and elsewhere, with linen and wool and other necessary wear, for making of cloth, to be sold there." And again: "Many strangers, inhabiting in other townships, have used customarily to resort to the said town

with a great number of cottons to be uttered and sold to the inhabitants, whereby many poor people have been well set to work, as well with dressing and greasing of the said cotton as with putting to size the same." Ten years later, *temp.* Edward VI., an Act was passed for regulating the weight and dimensions of Lancashire and Cheshire cottons and Manchester rugs and friezes.

Aspect of Manchester in 1552.

The population probably ranged from five to six thousand people. Its trade had already risen into sufficient prosperity to cause a considerable influx from the immediate out-townships and various parts of Lancashire and Cheshire. Analysing the list of surnames in the *Court Leet Records* we find that a great number of Scottish people had by that time settled in the town, for Scotland was one of the sources from which the merchants and chapmen of Manchester drew their linen yarn and wool. The Welsh element is sufficiently shown by the occurrence of seven names, while Irish nationality is represented by four surnames. The population was, therefore, already well leavened with new blood, a sure criterion of the expansion of industrial Manchester; this fresh infusion gave a further impulse to the restless trading spirit of this busy little manorial market place.

Leland, riding into the town in 1542, calls it in his terse way, "the fairest, best built, quickest, and most populous of all Lancastershire;" but when we come to 1552 the outlines become much clearer. The town stretches in one direction along the bold rocky brows of the Irk valley up Milne Bridge (Scotland Bridge), which takes us to the town's oak woods at Collyhurst. On its banks are the Walke Mill, the Collyhurst and Smedley

fulling mills for working the friezes and rugs. There are only a few badly paved, narrow, winding streets—fenell street, hengynge dyche, mylne gate, smethe door, and huntsbank; from the top of the rocks rise the College and the Old Church, and reached from the town side by a finely arched stone bridge, spanning the deep-channelled ditch. The centre of life is the market place; there are the booths, the stone cross, and the conduit. Crossing over we are in Market Stede Lane, and walk down Saynt Marys gate and the old Market stede; a few steps lead us to Deynsgate, where they are building new black-and-white timber houses for the wealthier class; in the distance extends Aldport Park and Knot Mill Bridge; on the east side, without the pale of Hyde Cross, stretches Wythegraves. The martial spirit is kept up by two pairs of butts, one in Market Stede Lane for the inhabitants of the south side of the church, the other upon Collyhurst for those on the northern side. The crowded market is held twice a week, and the great annual fair in autumn at Acresfield. The Irish merchants with their linen yarn haggle at Patrick Stone, near Smithy Door. Aulnegers and leather-sellers are scrutinising cloth and leather packs. The town numbers among its burgesses many rich mercers, grocers, haberdashers, clothiers, linen drapers, corvisers, and merchants and chapmen, who give employment to many linen and wool websters, shearmen, fullers, dyers, tanners, and whitlawers. The timbered dwelling-houses and shops are scattered in picturesque irregularity; some old houses are still in homely thatch. From the backs of the houses we step at once on rural ground and pasturage. The pleasant appearance of the town is further enhanced in the outskirts by a number of quaint old halls—Hulme Hall, on the brink of the Irwell, leads by a ford to

Ordsall Hall; the access from Deansgate is marked by stately Aldport Park and lodge, and the top of Market Street Lane leads up to Garrett Hall, owned by the Traffords. The leading hostelries are the *Bull's Head* Inn, in the Market Place, and the *Eagle and Child*, situate at St. Mary's Gate, both bearing the respective crests of the Radcliffes, of Ordsall Hall, and of the Derby family, painted on their signboards.

Trade in the Sixteenth Century.

The chapmen do already a busy trade in their local manufacture, and regularly visit the great fairs of Chester, London, and Stourbridge, near Cambridge. Richard Nugent, of Manchester, in his journey to London fair in 1589:—

Paid and spent in riding to London	0.	13.	5
for his diet in London	1.	5.	2.
for standing in the fair	0.	10.	0.
for his horse grass in London	0.	9.	2.

Blackwell Hall being then the great resort of the Manchester frieze, rug, and cotton men. At the close of the London fair he travelled to the Stourbridge fair and:

Paid betwixt London & Cambridge	0.	3.	4.
for his stand in the fair	0.	13.	4.
for his diet & spent upon chapmen ...	0.	9.	8.
for grass of his horse, six days	0.	1.	6.
between Cambridge & Manchester ...	0.	6.	10.

The roads which radiate from the town are the king's high road, which, crossing Milne Bridge, up Smedley, past the Peel and Stocks, goes into Yorkshire. From Market Sted Lane, past Garrett Hall, the route winds through Stockport to Derby and London, which, however, is the more intractable road to the metropolis. From

Deansgate, then in an impassable, broken condition, and marked by holes and ruts, across Knot Mill, Cornbrook, and Cross Ferry Bridge, past Knutsford, to Cranage, we link on to the great Holyhead Road, taking us likewise to London, and altogether a more comfortable road, leading through level country.

Another road passes, *viâ* Salford, through Pendleton, to Warrington, and from thence also striking both to Chester and Liverpool. At that time there were no real regulated posts available for the traders and the carriage of post-letters, but only foot and horse messengers, who followed the king's court from place to place, and any letters, packets, invoices, or accounts were entrusted to the care of the slow carrier who despatched the goods of the Manchester people to their destination. In 1588 Chadwick, in the employ of a Salford clothier, is mentioned. The chapmen and merchants went to the fairs and trading towns on horseback, or engaged, when necessary, post-horses.

Not only did the Manchester traders attend the great fairs, but their business transactions also extended far away to Hull, Worcester, Bristol, and Salisbury, &c., and their cottons found even their way already in 1580 to Rouen.

Canon Raines has copied some letters in his introduction to the *Derby Household Books*, which show us the particular style of address used. It includes the request:—

> 1580, geve this with convenient speed, from Oxford to Handley.
> 1582, gyve theise, from Preston to Worden in Lancashire.
> 1584, de. with speed & theise d. d. (=dedi), from Chisnall to Worden in Lancashire.
> 1588, theise ðd. (=dedi), from Newfield to Worden in Lancashire.

Unfortunately, he does not state whether any charge for post-carriage is indicated on these letters. We emerge

now from the sixteenth century. Camden still makes a passing allusion to the condition of the town which, in 1582, he says, "far excelleth the towns, lying about it, for resort unto it & for clothing."

Manchester in the Seventeenth Century.

At the opening of the seventeenth century the frieze and woollen industry begins gradually to dwindle away, already hinted at by Camden. Instead, we are faced with a steady growth of the linen industry and a vigorous development of the fustian manufacture, which we find well established in the second decade. The linen websters were in full activity and the linen yarn trade with Ireland in a flourishing condition; while there existed a growing demand for Cyprus and Smyrna cotton wool required for the weft of the fustian-makers. It was purchased and brought from London. Humphrey Chetham was one of the leading buyers and chapmen, and employed, as we see from his account books, a large number of carriers for the conveyance of his merchandise to the different parts of Lancashire and the great fairs and markets. Manchester waggon-men were to be seen with their heavy loads of packs travelling in all directions. From the *Carriers' Cosmography*, published in 1637, we learn that:—

> The carriers of Manchester do lodge at the Bear in Bassishaw, they do come on Thursday & Friday, they likewise also lodge at the sign of the Axe, in Aldermanbury, they do also lodge at the Two-necked Swan, in Lad Lane. There come every second Thursday, also there do lodge carriers that do pass through divers other parts of Lancashire.

The Axe and Bear were the habitual inns of the Yorkshire and Derbyshire carriers; while the Two-necked Swan and the Bell were patronised by the carriers

from North Lancashire, Warrington, and Cheshire. It appears, therefore, that both the routes through Derbyshire and Cheshire were used for London by the Manchester traders, "affording," as Ogilby remarks, "through Cheshire no ill way, but mostly sandy; through Lancashire somewhat deep, hardy, and hilly."

Some light is thrown on the industrial status of the town* in 1641: "The town of Manchester must be remembered and worthily for their encouragement commended who buy the yarn of the Irish in great quantity & weaving it, return the same again in Linnen into Ireland to sell. Neither does the industry rest here, for they buy Cotton in London & at home work the same & perfect it into Fustians, Vermillions, Dymities & other such stuff & thus return it to London where the same is vended & not seldom sent into forraine parts."

About 1650,† we are informed: "The trade consists in woollen friezes, fustians, sack cloth, mingled stuff, caps, inkles, tapes, points, etc. whereby not only the better sort of men are employed, but also the very children by their labour can maintain themselves. There are besides all kinds of foreign merchandize brought & returned by the merchants of the town, amounting to the sum of many thousands of pounds weekly."

The town continued to increase steadily. People crowded to it from the surrounding counties, and its boundaries in Deansgate, Market Stead Lane, and Long Mill Gate grew in extent. The seed of commercialism and a wide intercourse had sharpened and expanded their

---

* *The Treasure of Trafficke.* Lewis Roberts. 1641.
† On Berry's Plan of Manchester.

political and religious views: it was the first town in the North which supported the Commonwealth and Nonconformity, and affording an early forecast of the Manchester School, made itself already felt in the country.

Postal Development.

Our first information begins a little previous to the time when Thomas Witherings (1635–44) farmed the post-roads. In 1631 the *Constable's Accounts** have an entry:

> Feb. 22 pd Richard Halliwell's man for meale for 3 post horses for Mr Cotton 00. 02. 02.

Richard Halliwell was the keeper of Bull's Head Tavern, and to all appearances postmaster in the time of Charles I. (1625–48). I give now:

The Rates of Post-Letters, Inland, in 1635.

The carriage to or from any place of every:	single letter not exceeding 1 sheet, d.	double letter not exceeding 2 sheets, d.	"if bigger," d.
Under fourscore (80) miles...	2.	4.	6. an oz.
Above fourscore (80) miles and not exceeding 140...	4.	8.	9. ,,
Above 140 miles	6.	12.	12. ,,

This was the introduction of postage,† and for every letter sent by post, a "port" or charge for carriage was levied, according to above scale. The posts were now thrown open to all. Every postmaster was to have ready

* Vol. i., p. 279.

† See *History of the Post-office*, Herbert Joyce, London, 1893, p. 18.

in his stables one or two horses, the charge for one horse 2½d. a mile, and 5d. for two horses, the latter charge including cost of a guide. No letters were allowed to be carried, or delivered where posts should be established, by any person, except such as Witherings might appoint, and by common known carrier. We find:—

1642.	June 14. pd. Mr. Halliwell for a horse to Burie*	0.	2.	0.
,,	Nov. 23. pd. for a horse one night at Mr. Halliwell's†	0.	0.	6.
1652.	Express to Preston (Chetham MSS., vol. i., p. 180)	0.	7.	0.

A letter from London to Humphrey Chetham, dated May 9th, 1648, is marked 0. 0. 6. postage.

1654.	Mch. 24. for carriage of a letter to Mr Richard Worsley (Chetham MSS., vol. i., p. 209)	0.	0.	6.
,,	July 25. po. Nathan Leech which he paid post for bringing downe ye writings concerning ye Colledge (Chetham MSS., vol. i., p. 211) ...	0.	9.	3.
,,	July 17. po. post for Carriage of ye writings to London concerning ye Colledge (Chetham MSS., vol. 1., p. 211)	0.	5.	9.
,,	Oct. 13. ffor a letter by post	0.	0.	6.

It is not before 1648 that we have any positive ocular demonstration of an official postmaster in Manchester. It consists in a letter directed:

To his lovinge friend Mr
Alexander Green the
Postmaster of Manchester
marked 1/6. this present
In his absence to any of his
sonne or servants.

---

* Vol. ii., p. 110. Chetham MSS.
† *Ibid*, vol. ii., p. 119.

measuring folded three by four inches (in Allen's papers, Bundle A, Chetham Library), the substance of which I must give for its great historical interest. It runs:—

Mr. GREENE.
Commende is Mr Chetham is our new Sheriffe, I pray you lett this enclosed letter bee sent forthwith by a carefull messenger to Clayton to him for it is matter of importance from the Parliament. I rest
Yor. lo: sonne
Nov. the 28th Jo: ROGERSON.
1648.
Mr Higfeild presents his service to you.

In former times the houses were not numbered—a thing only done at the beginning of the last century—and it was consequently required to be precise; in fact, the *London Gazette** found it necessary to impress on the public on September 2nd, 1667 (No. 188):—

Whereas divers letters miscarry by not giving full directions whence blame is causelessly put upon the letter-office, all persons are desired hereafter to be more punctuall in mentioning the shire, there being severall towns in England of the like name and also the Street and place adjacent of note, if there be not a signe.

The words "haste, haste, pray" were eventually omitted, as the post, when properly established, had a prescribed mileage to ride per hour.

With William Dockwra (1660–1685), a London merchant, and the originator of the London penny post, new life was infused into the post organisation. Although

* In consequence of the great fire in London the *London Gazette*, September 3rd, 1666 (No. 85), informs us: "The General Post Office is for the present held at the two black Pillars, Bridge Street, over against the Fleece Tavern, Covent garden, till a more suitable place can be found in London." September 17th, 1666 (No. 88): "The G.P.O. is now held in Bishopsgate Street at Sir Samuel Bernardiston's House, the same that Master Sheriff Hanson sometimes kept his Sheriffalty in." August 11th, 1687 (No. 2,268), mentions the G.P.O. in Lombard Street. It was the dwelling-house of Sir Robert Vyner in the reign of Charles II. (see *London in 1731*, by Don Manoel Gonzales, in Cassell's National Library).

originally confined to the charge of London letters he also attended to the dispatch of letters to the country. He was the originator of postmarks, and had his principal office in Lyme Street, at his private dwelling-house. There were a very great number of receiving offices for town letters, but country letters might be posted there, and were collected at a stated hour every evening.* One of his postmarks had a large, L in a circle, standing for Lyme Street. In his time a modification of the charge for postage took place, which I will now produce:—

RATES OF POSTAGE IN 1660.

	single.	double.	for every ounze of every paquet of writs, deeds & other things.
	d.	d.	d.
Not exceeding fourscore miles and under	2	4	8
Above fourscore miles	3	6	12

The Hire of Post-horses is after the Rate of 3d. for every English Mile & 4d. every stage for a Guide.

Post Letters may be sent from London on Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday to all parts of England.

Letters are returned from all parts of England every Monday, Wednesday & Friday.

(See also Sir S. Morland's *Perpetual Almanack*, pp. 181–184.)

We see from this that postage from Manchester to London from 1635-60, charged 6d., was now reduced to 3d.; while the hire of post-horses, originally 2½d. a mile, is raised to 3d., and 4d. every stage for a guide. Letters could be posted three times a week from the town to the metropolis, viz., every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. Manchester also, with the change of government, received a new postmaster.

Of the postal arrangements in Lancashire additional

* Joyce, pp. 38-9.

light is thrown by an announcement in the *London Gazette*, October 21st, 1667 (No. 202). It says:—

All persons desirous to send letters from London to Liverpool, Ormskirk, Prescot, Wigan and Leagh in the County of Lancashire, or from thence to London, may take notice their letters will be conveyed every week by horse, which formerly went by foot and but twice a week.

Evidently Liverpool was miserably lagging behind, when measured with the postal facilities extended to Manchester, for previous to 1667 their letters went twice a week by foot and now only every week by horse.

I need not point out that the post-road, by which letters and packets were taken to Manchester, was the great Holyhead or Chester Road. For post-office service the kingdom was divided into six roads: the North Road, the Chester or Holyhead Road, the Western Road, the Kent Road, and the roads to Bristol and to Yarmouth. Our road went *viâ* St. Albans, Towcester, Daventry, Dunchurch, Weston, Coventry, Lichfield, Stone, Holmes Chapel, Cranage (occasionally some highwaymen swinging from the gallow-trees lining the road), and a little north of it branched off as a cross-road *viâ* Knutsford* to Manchester; while the main road ran straight on to Warrington, where in 1681 Peter Nailor was post-master, going thence up direct to Carlisle. At Brereton (or Brewerton, as then called) there was, as an indication of the lively road traffic—for it formed a stage,—a very substantial and comfortable inn, called the Bear's Head, built as far back as 1615. At "Holmes Chappell" the Red Lyon Inn gave shelter and comfort to the travellers "on the great

* The deviation of the post-road *viâ* Knutsford was probably due to Sir Thomas Egerton, Lord Chancellor of England (1540–1617) having his seat here, and for his communication and correspondence with the Government. There were also post-roads to Newton and "Leagh" (Lancashire), kept for their parliamentary representatives' intercourse and business with Westminster.

road." At Knutsford was the snug Rose and Crown, and here, not in Manchester, by some exceptional circumstances was installed, at the period we are just speaking of, the Manchester postmaster, Jeffrey Aldcroft (1667–1672), where, as we are officially informed, "although living 10 miles off, he managed the town's business well & with several hours' less delay than before." The road then passed Dunham, and crossed the Mersey, a little before Stretford, at Crossford Bridge. It went on then to the bridge at Throstle Nest and from thence to Cornbrook Bridge, and finally surmounting Knot Mill Bridge, which crossed the Medlock, the post-carrier, making his way along narrow and slippery Deansgate, reached the Bull's Head Inn in the Market Place, not, however, before having blown his merry horn three times to announce his coming.

In the Walmsley accounts* we possess a very interesting statement of expenses, incidental to the steward's journey from Blackburn, *viâ* Warrington, to London on the great post-road. His master also passed very often to the metropolis and to France (to the latter with six horses), but generally they employed three horses. The stoppages and cost of baiting is carefully noted down. A few items will, no doubt, interest you:—

1671, Jany.	29.	Riding Post to London 150 Miles at 3d a Mile	01. 17. 06.
,,	30.	Guide groates 16 (at 4d.)	0. 5. 4.
1672, Mar.	2.	My Board wages in London 5 weeks & 3 days	2. 3. 0.
June	17.	My charged from home to London, being 5 days & 4 nights	0. 16. 6.
1677, May	1.	My charges & my horse coming down	0. 17. 6.
April	10.	,, ,, ,, up to London	0. 15. 8.

I subjoin in the appendix an account in detail of his London journey, both "upwards" and "downwards," as it used to be called when going to London.

---

*B R Q 640, W, 3. Reference Library.

The first letter I have come across bearing the London mark on the address is from Henry Chetham, Gray's Inn, London, dated October 19, 1678, and directed:—

ffor
James Chetham Esqe.
At Turton near Bolton
in Lancashire.

folded three by four inches.

In addition to the minute circular London stamp, OC on the top (= October) and 19 (the day) below, the two divided by a central line, it bears the L in a circle, which, as mentioned before, is Dowckra's private stamp, standing for Lyme Street, his office. It is marked threepence, the new rate since 1660 for letters, above fourscore miles from London.

It appears there existed a reprehensible amount of smuggling of post-letters, to the great detriment of the post-office, and in order to deter offenders a notice was published in the *London Gazette*:—

July 12, 1686: Westminster. John Warren, Carrier, of Stanford, Lincolnshire, judgement obtained for £440. for carrying and conveying of letters and pacquets contrary to Law, also against Thomas Wooddeson, porter of the same Warren, for the like sum of £440, for receiving, collecting and delivering letters and pacquets, contrary to law, and of this all Carriers, Higlers, Stage-Coachmen, Drivers of Packhorses and all Porters and Agents belonging to them and every of them are to take Notice.

We have letters relating to this year, as:

These
ffor Mr Nathan Lever att
in Manchester
Lancashire.

bearing the London postmark, from James Boardman, Staple Inn, London, June 27, 1685; and another:

These
ffor Mr James Chetham att
Smedley neare
in Manchester
Lancashire

marked 3d., dated London, May 21st, 1687, from the same sender.

The right to act as postmaster appears to have been much abused by the innkeepers all over the country; it happened often enough that on examination there were many men who presumed so to act, although not officially entitled to it. The Postmaster General was not always sufficiently powerful to cope with the evil, the *London Gazette* therefore announces:—

Oct. 14, 1686 (No. 2182): His Majesty having been graciously pleased by his proclamation, bearing date the 7th of September last past, to grant to his Postmaster divers Privilidges, whereupon several Inn-Keepers and others have pretended to be Postmasters who are not so. This is therefore to give notice that no person is to be esteemed a Postmaster who has not a deputation under the hand and seal of the Rt. Honble. the Earl of Rochester, Lord High Treasurer of England and his Majesty's Postmaster-General, and also his Majesty's said Proclamation signed by Philip Frowde, Esq., Governor of the Post Office, and the seal of the Office affixed to it. On the sight whereof his Majesty does expect all due obedience to be paid to his said Proclamation by all his Officers and other persons whatsoever. Whitehall, Sunderland P.

I must now say a few words about the position of the postmasters themselves during the last part of the century.

We are told* that many of them received no salaries at all. The disturbed political state of the county led to many abuses. Officers of the army would over-ride the horses and lame or kill them without making compensation, others hired and never returned them, and, in addition, soldiers were quartered upon them. Many through inability to pay arrears of postage were thus thrown into prison, and Alexander Green, postmaster from 1662–1667, appears to have been in some such plight; when he died his embarrassed widow was unable

* See Joyce, p. 48–52.

to pay the moneys due to the post, and consequently the office was taken from her and given to Jeffrey Aldcroft, of Knutsford, before mentioned.

Despite these drawbacks, Joyce remarks, the appointments were eagerly sought for, for it carried the exclusive and lucrative right of letting post-horses, particularly on the more frequented roads, where the postmaster was also innkeeper, as was the case in Manchester. He supplied the chapmen, merchants, and travellers with horses for their journey. Besides these were gratuities, on every letter he collected or delivered, varying, according to distance, from one to three pence, and there were the bye-letters (those stopping short of London), on which there was then no proper check.

The duties of the postmaster were to transport the mails from town to town; the post-roads were then divided into sections or stages, which were staffed by a corresponding number of postmasters, whose business it was to carry the mails each over his own stage.

Joyce states that from Wigan the letters for Kendal were fetched by the postmaster from Preston, who passed not only his own town, but the town of Lancaster on his way.

To refer next to the condition of the roads, we learn that long after the passing of the Act of 1691, the causeway formed an important feature of the roads. This causeway, or bridle-path, ran down the middle, while the margin on either side was little better than a ditch. But the state of the roads concerned the post-office far less at the close of the seventeenth century than it did at the close of the eighteenth. The mails were carried on horseback, and even so they were carried mainly over the six great roads, which, in comparison were tolerably good, and probably not altogether ill-adapted to riding. All

At MANCHESTER.

According to the last *Regulation* 1721.

The POST goes out,

To London &c. or to any of the Towns in or near the road to London.	*Monday* *Wednesday* *Saturday*	Morning 9 O'Clock.

To Warrington Chester Worcester Bristol Ireland Liverpoole Preston Lancaster Kendal Carlisle Dumfries &c.	*Mondays* *Thursdays* *Saturdays*	Morning 7 O'Clock.

Note. It will be best to Bring the Letters the night Before the going out of the Post, because the acc-counts and Baggs are usually made up over night.

To Rochdale Yorkshire Edinburgh &c.	*Sundays* *Tuesdays* *Fridays*	Morning 6 or 7 O'Clock

The POST comes in,

from London &c.	*Mondays* *Thursdays* *Saturdays*	Night 9, 10, 11, 12, or &c.

from Warrington &c.	*Tuesdays* *Fridays* *Sundays*	Morning 6, or 7.

from Rochdale &c.	*Mondays* *Wednesdays* *Saturdays*	Morning 8.

POST-OFFICE NOTICE, 1721.

the disasters and difficulties were generally on the cross roads, and particularly so with the wheeled traffic. Hence the innumerable tales of melancholy and fury of Defoe, Arthur Young, and other irascible cross-road travellers.

Manchester, in the 16th, 17th, and part of the 18th centuries, laboured for the carriage of its goods under a great disadvantage by its rather unfavourable position, for the great road arteries did not directly touch it, and lay painfully far away; the various roads which issued from the town were mostly execrable and difficult, the next century only converted them into pike-roads; as it was, all the main roads had to be reached by wretched and ill-conditioned by and cross roads, which during winter and spring were scarcely passable for the use of the riders, stage coach drivers, and carriers. They were one of the great obstacles Manchester and Lancashire manufacturers and traders had to contend with at these periods in the conveyance of their merchandise, and the post, although in a lesser degree, suffered in like manner in the despatch of its mails.

While the commercial growth of the town advanced, postal arrangements still lagged sadly behind, to the great annoyance of the trade. Stephen Bigg,* the farmer of the by-roads, passing through Lancashire in 1699, was struck with the wretched accommodation which the post afforded; owing to the system of gratuities they were slow, irregular, and costly. The next century corrected all this, and brought into the service a number of improvements.

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* Joyce, p. 60.

Transport in the Eighteenth Century.

With the beginning of the eighteenth century we turn over a new leaf in the annals of Manchester. The progress during the century, signalised by numerous epoch-making inventions, improvements in the loom, and in handling, bleaching, dyeing, and printing cotton, equally with the opening up of extensive coalfields, and finally the introduction of the steam engine and the power-loom in its mills and workshops gave an enormous impetus to its trade, and thus mapped it out as the focus of the cotton industry of the United Kingdom.

In the past century the chief means of transport was by waggon, and the carriers formed an important body in the link of trade. We have seen them already, at the end of the sixteenth century, busy in the carrying of the friezes and cottons. We have a complete list of Lancashire carriers in 1732. The Manchester carriers stayed at the "Castle and Falcon" and the "Blossom's" Inn, on Fridays, in London; the town had then only carriers, while, according to this list, Warrington, Chester, and Lancaster, all situated on the great road, possessed already stage coaches in addition. To the great comfort of the travelling public, such as merchants, business people, and the more well-to-do classes, who formerly had to engage post-horses, a new kind of vehicle had sprung into existence—conveyance by stage waggon or flying machine. Our earliest reference begins in 1744. This innovation, of course, was a great gain to the trading community, and in a short time the stage coach system ramified to all the more important towns. The pack-horse became now the chief means by which goods were carried on the pike-roads, which by the middle of the century were established throughout the country.

Photo by W. Ellis.

BULL'S HEAD, MARKET PLACE,

THE ORIGINAL SEAT OF THE MANCHESTER POST-OFFICE.

Progress of Postal Arrangements.

William Bowker (1699–1710) was the last innkeeping postmaster of the town. The first Manchester postmark appears in the beginning of the century on a letter to London, of double weight, and charged sixpence at the old rate of 1660. It is one and a half inches long, printed in one straight line, with a curious ligulation of the capital letters HE and TE. This letter is dated March 12th, 1706. Five years later the rates were altered.

The Post-Office Act, passed 1711, 9th Ann, fixed the new rates as following :—

The New Rates in 1711.*

From London.	Single. whole sheet.	Double. two sheets.	Treble.	Ounze.
	d.	d.	d.	d.
To or from any place not exceeding 80 miles and under ...	3	6	9	12
Above 80 miles	4	8	12	16

A comparison shows that the new rates were raised respectively 1d. for single, 2d. for double, and 4d. for oz., while the charge for the hire of post-horses was retained, although of late stage-coaches, running for less than 2½d. a mile had been introduced.

The new additional penny charged on letters not exceeding eighty miles and under, of a single sheet, proved an annoyance to the post-office, for people endeavoured to find out other conveyance for their letters, and this clandestine traffic assumed great dimensions. This Act, says Joyce, proved disastrous in its effects on the well-being and morality of the nation ; it was only mended in 1765.

The next Manchester Postmaster, James Lightboune

* See also the *Merchant's Magazine or the Trades-Man's Treasury*, chapter xiii., 225–230, by E. Hatton, Gent. 4o. London. 1734.

(1710–1715), represents the new type. He belonged to an old Pendleton family, and seems to have been a yeoman.

We have still a handbill of the Manchester post regulations for 1721.* The post to London or any of the towns in or near the road to London, it states thereon, goes out Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday morning at nine o'clock. In 1660 it went Friday instead of Saturday. The other places to which the post goes are Warrington, Chester, Worcester, Bristol, Ireland, Liverpool, Preston, Lancaster, Kendal, Carlisle, Dumfries, &c.; Rochdale, Yorkshire, Edinburgh, &c., which indicate the chief places with which Manchester kept up a business correspondence. A facsimile of it is reproduced.

Letters were then divided into: London letters; county letters, from one part of the county to another; by or way letters, passing between any two towns on the great roads, stopping short of London; and cross-post letters, crossing from the great road to some other.

Lancashire letters were comprised with the English or South British or inland letters.

This is the proper place to introduce the immortal Ralph Allen (1720–1764), whose merits and benevolence have been sung by Pope:—

> Let humble Allen, with an awkward shame,
> Do good by stealth, and blush to find it fame.

He is one of the great figures in the history of the post service. The son of an innkeeper, at St. Blaise, he rose by sheer aptitude and genius to the postmastership of

* There is a copy in the Reference Library and one in Peel Park Museum, from the latter it has been kindly copied out for me by Mr. Mullen.

Bath, and at the age of twenty-six offered to take in farm the by and cross letters. He was accepted, and originated the wonderful development of that great and well-woven system of cross posts, which at the period of his death extended to, and crossed all parts of the country. He was a most indefatigable administrator, who spared neither time nor money in helping forward any scheme or proposal for the formation of new connecting lines conducive to the welfare and interest of the trade. To this he joined a most amiable disposition, only exceeded by his great modesty. In his position he may be described as a national benefactor. Defoe at an early time (1727) shows the effect of his influence. Let me quote his words:—

In my second journey I came from Lancashire, where you are to note that all this part of the country is so considerable for its trade that the Postmaster General (by which we must of course understand with Allen behind him, to whom the honour or merit is principally due) has thought fit to establish a cross-post through all the parts of England into it, to maintain the correspondence of merchants & men of business, of which all this side is full. This cross-post begins at Plymouth, & leaving the great Western Post road of Exeter behind, comes away North to Taunton, Bridgewater & Bristol, from thence goes on through all the great cities & towns up the Severn, such as Gloucester, Worcester, Bridgenorth & Shrewsbury; thence by Chester to Lpool & Warrington; from thence it turns away East and passes to Manchester, Bury, Rochdale, Halifax, Leeds & York & ends at Hull. The shop keepers & manufacturers can correspond with their dealers at Manchester, Liverpool & Bristol, nay, even with Ireland directly, without the tedious interruption of sending their letters about to London, or employ people at London to forward their packets.

To him Manchester is under particular obligation.

In a pictorial (undated) handbill, with the "Prospect of Manchester," describing the new post regulations, to be seen in the scrapbook in the Chetham Library, we find, in addition to the places mentioned in the regulations of 1721: Chesterfield, Mansfield, Worksop, Nottingham, Rotherham, Sheffield, Derby. The inclusion of these is

connected with a bit of romance and entirely due to ever-ready Allen. Joyce* alludes in detail to this interesting episode. In 1736 the Duke of Devonshire, who had been spending the summer at Chatsworth, was much struck with the delay of letters between Chesterfield and Manchester, and begged the Postmaster General to remedy this. At that time, we must understand, there was no post between these two places. Allen, to whom the matter was referred, without waiting to consult the local surveyor, at once gave his instructions. There should certainly be a post between Manchester and Chesterfield. Derby must also share in the benefit, and this again could not be done without erecting a stage between that town and Nottingham, which being already in direct communication with Chesterfield, Lincolnshire must also be considered, and so he likewise connected Nottingham and Newark and Lincoln. The entire district, including not Chesterfield alone, but Sheffield, Nottingham, and Mansfield, was doing a very considerable trade in Manchester ware, but the letters which passed between these towns and Manchester were chiefly sent with the goods by carrier. Of post-letters there were few. Notwithstanding this and the cost of putting on a new post to Chesterfield, Allen carried the whole of these alterations with effect at his own expense. The Postmaster General received the duke's gracious thanks, but Allen, to whom all this was due, did not so much as appear in the transaction. This, in postal regard certainly historical, little handbill has the post to London still tri-weekly. Thanks to Allen, the post service was increased to six days, during the course of 1755, for Manchester, so

* Joyce, pp. 165-7.

that this regulation must date between 1736 and before 1755. Here is a copy:—

At Manchester, according to the new Regulations. 1755, Dec. 30.

THE POST GOES OUT:

To London etc. or to any of the Towns in or near the Road to London	Mondays Wednesdays Saturdays	Morning at nine o'clock.
To Warrington Chester Worcester Ireland	Mondays Thursdays Saturdays	
To Stockport Chappel-le-Frith Tideswell Bakewell	Mondays Wednesdays Saturdays	
To Liverpool Preston	Winter at 6 o'clock in the Morning, Summer at 5 o'clock.	
To Rotherham Sheffield, Derby		4 o'clock in the Morning.
To Rochdale Yorkshire Edinburgh, etc.	Sundays Tuesdays Fridays	Morning 6 o'clock in the Winter, 5 in the Summer.
Lancaster Kendal Carlisle Dumfries	NOTE.—You are to bring your letters by 10 o'clock over night.	
Mansfield Chesterfield Worksop Nottingham	NOTE.—You are to bring in your letters by 10 o'clock over night.	

THE POST COMES IN:

From London	Mondays Thursdays Saturdays	Night, Nine, Ten, Eleven, or Twelve o'clock, etc.
From Warrington ... Stockport ... ... Chappel-le-Frith etc.	Tuesdays Fridays Sundays	Mornings, four or five o'clock.
From Rochdale	Mondays Wednesdays Saturdays	Morning, 6 or 7 o'clock.

But I have been anticipating a little. We have some postmarks of Manchester and Knutsford during the time Thomas Hollingworth (1710–40) was postmaster. They consist in some letters, addressed by Dr. Dearden to his friend Dr. Byrom, at Richard's Coffee House, by Temple

Bar, London. One dated Manchester, December 6th, 1726, post charge 4d., bearing the KNUTS FORD postmark and the London mark where now the date is on the top and the month below; another one, Manchester, February 20th, 1729, with the Manchester mark in two lines MAN CHESTER 4d.; one Manchester, April 30th, 1729, with the Manchester mark also in two lines MAN CHESTER 4d.; and a fourth from his friend W. Law, Putney, November 20th, 1736, addressed to Dr. Byrom at his house, Manchester, Lancashire, 4d., bearing the London mark.

With the appearance of Isaac Clegg (1748–1768) we enter a period of many improvements in the postal service. About 1747* the post-office got into disgrace with travellers. The trustees of the turnpike roads, which now sprung up in all directions, discovered when measuring the distances of existing milestones that the statute mile proved much shorter than the reputed or post-office mile (already pointed out by John Ogilby, 1674). The distance, for instance, to Manchester, according to the post-office one hundred and thirty-seven miles, turned out to measure actually one hundred and sixty-five miles; as a consequence, as soon as the new stone milestones were erected the postmasters charged accordingly.

In 1753 a great test case† was tried and fought out at and between Manchester and the local postmaster respecting the charge on pattern or sample post, a matter of vital importance to merchants and manufacturers. It had been the constant and uniform practice, ever since the post-office was established, to treat letters containing such matter with double postage. The merchants now

* Joyce, p. 175. † *Ibid*, p. 177.

contended that, if weighing less than an ounce, they should be charged as single and not as double letters. The case embarrassed the Government extremely; the lawyers had also joined in and insisted on single postage for transmission of their writs. To get out of the difficulties the Government took refuge in a clause inserted in an Act which prevented the merchants from sending their patterns as samples, and the lawyers their writs, for single postage.

On the 10th of October, 1755, the three-weekly posts began to be converted by Allen into posts six days a week; we have the official announcement in Whitworth's *Manchester Magazine*, October 14th, 1755:—

WARRINGTON, *13 September, 1755.*

His Majesty's Post-Master General for the further improvement of Correspondence having been pleased to Order, That Letters shall for the future be conveyed six Days in every Week (instead of three Days, as at present)—betwixt London and Wooburn, Newport-Pagnell, Northampton, Market-Harborough, Leicester, Loughborough, Derby, and Nottingham, through Hertford, on the three additional Post-Days.

And likewise betwixt London and Shiffnall, Shrewsbury, Stafford, Stone, Namptwich, Chester, Middlewich, Northwich, Warrington, Liverpoole, and Manchester, through Oxford, Worcester, Birmingham, and Wolverhampton on the three additional Days.

Also to quicken the Communication by Post, betwixt Sheffield, of the great North Road through Doncaster; and the Correspondence between Manchester, Liverpoole, Warrington, Chester, Gloucester, South-Wales, Bristol, and the whole Cross-Roads, as well as between Liverpoole, Manchester, Wigan, Preston, Lancaster, Kendal, and all Parts of Westmorland and Cumberland, and between Liverpoole and all Parts of Yorkshire, Durham, Northumberland, Scotland. Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire, Lincolnshire, Huntingdonshire, Cambridgeshire, and Norfolk.

Publick Notice is given herewith That these several additional Conveyance, Improvements and Regulations will take Place from Friday the 10th Day of October next, etc., etc. By Command of the Post-Master General

ATKINSON ROBINSON }
WILLIAM HATHORNE } *Surveyors.*

The same paper, on December 30th, 1755, also announces in connection with the new regulations:—

Just printed to be had at the same place an exact account of the days and hours of the Post's setting out from and coming to Manchester.

Unfortunately no copy of the handbill is now in existence.

At that period people spoke of "loosing" a letter. In the Flixton Parish Account,* amongst other expenses, we find:—

1751. for loosing the faculty letter 1/-
to Edward Booth for loosing letters 0. 10.

It was the custom for the receiver of a letter to pay the postage, which was called "loosing it from the post."

In 1758 the bye-night mails to Lancashire, &c., were conveyed from the 5th January *viâ* Shipston, Stratford, and Henley instead of through Evesham, Worcester, and Bromsgrove, and posts opened at the former places, by which means the mails would arrive much earlier. I will give the full wording of the announcement (No. 9,754, *London Gazette*):—

POST-OFFICE *Jany. 3, 1768.*

Bye-night Mails, London, Birmingham, Wolverhampton, Shiffnall, Stafford, Stone, Namptwich, Chester, Northwich, Warrington & Liverpool & Manchester pass at present through Evesham, Worcester & Bromsgrove for the future to be conveyed directly through Shipston upon Stower, Stratford upon Avon & Henley upon Arden by which means these Mails will arrive much earlier at Birmingham & all the other towns North thereof than they do at present & a communication by the Post be opened from Shipston, Stratford, Henley & Aulcester to all parts of Staffordshire, Cheshire, North Wales and Lancashire from 5 day Jany next.

All Carriers, Coachmen, Water-, Wherrymen, Dispersers of Country-News-Papers etc., prosecuted £5. for every letter & £100. for every week the practice is continued.

GEO. SHELVOCKE, Secretary (1742–1762).

* See *A History of the Parish of Flixton*, D. H. Langton, 1898, p. 67.

Another postal regulation was issued on July 14th, 1761, in the *Mercury*, reading:—

A correct account of the coming in & going out of the posts of Manchester, according to the last regulation, may be had at the Post Office & at the Printer of this paper.

What these new regulations were we do not know, as we possess no copy.

The great London postal road to Manchester followed, as we have seen, the Holyhead or Chester Road, turning off at Cranage, *viâ* Knutsford. It is difficult to ascertain the exact year when it was discarded and transferred to the Derbyshire side. The Manchester Road* is given in 1763: "Manchester, Grimlow, Stockport, Disley, Buxton, Derby, Shadloe, Keyworth, Loughborough, Mount Sorrel, Leicester, Hadborough, Northampton, Newport Pagnel, Dunstable, St. Albans, Barnet, London, measuring 181 Miles 5 furlongs." I made inquiries at the Record Committee of the General Post-office, who have the same difficulty; but very probably the Derbyshire post route only came in with the establishment of the mail coach in 1785.

A letter or packet by express from the General Post-office, at any hour, without loss of time, was charged in 1763:—

Manchester ...	£2. 15. 6.	Leverpool	£2. 18. —
Knotsford	2. 12. —	Wigan	2. 17. —
Warrington ...	2. 14. 6.	Preston	3. — 6.
Macclesfield ...	2. 11. 9.	Lancaster	3. 6. 6.
Namptwich ...	2. 9. 6.	Garstang	3. 3. 6.

To ride Post† in any of the Post-Roads Three-pence British Money for each Horse-hire for every English Mile & Four-pence for the Guide of every Stage.

The Deputy Postmasters are to have ready, at all Times, Servants above the Age of fourteen Years, to ride with & carry Mails & Expenses &

* See *The Traveller's Pocket Book or Ogilby & Morgan's Book of the Roads, &c.* London, 1763.

† See *The Traveller's Pocket Book or Ogilby & Morgan's Book of the Roads, &c.*, pp. 219-20. London, 1763.

to serve as a Guide with his Horn, to all Persons riding Post; & such Servants to ride all the Year after the Rate of 5 Miles an Hour, & wind their Horns once in every Mile & three Times in every Town & Village & upon meeting of any Passenger upon the Road.

In 1765 a re-classification of the rates was effected to give the public greater facilities:—

RATE OF POSTAGE IN 1765.

	Single. d.	Double. d.	Treble. d.	Ounce. d.
From any post-office in England and Wales to any place not exceeding 15 miles from such an office (= 1 stage)	1	2	3	4
Above 15 miles and not exceeding 30 miles (= 2 stages)	2	4	6	8
Above 30 miles and not exceeding 80 miles	3	6	9	12
Above 80 miles and above ...	4	8	12	16

The speed of the post was raised from five to six miles an hour.

Our information for the next few decades is slight. We learn incidentally that in 1775 Liverpool complained of having only one letter carrier in the town, and an application was made to the Government to appoint another. This request was refused on the plea that no more than one had as yet been appointed to any town in England. If merchants required their letters earlier they must send to the post-office for them.*

In 1768 Isaac Clegg retired from office, and was succeeded by John Willatt (1768–1772); the latter seems to have been a very efficient postmaster, who acquired his training under Clegg; on his death the post-office was entrusted to his widow, Sarah Willatt (1772–1793), who earned the admiration and praise of the community for the great efficiency with which she discharged her duties. Manchester, like Liverpool, had, during her postmastership, only one letter carrier, and, nevertheless, the work

* *Rise and Progress of Liverpool*, James M. Walthew, Liverpool, 1865, p. 36.

appears to have been well done for a town whose population was at that time 27,246 people, including Salford.

Another change of the post-rates was made in 1784, when they were doubled:—

RATE OF POSTAGE IN 1784.

	Single. d.	Double. d.	Treble. d.	Ounce. d.
Up to 15 miles	2	4	6	8
Above 15 ,, to 30 miles ...	3	6	9	12
30 ,, to 80 ,, ...	4	8	12	16
80 ,, to 150 ,, ...	5	10	15	20
150 and above...	6	12	18	24

In the next year a great revolution was brought about in the dispatch of the letters by the introduction of Palmer's plan of carrying the same, not, as formerly, by post-horses, but by mail-coaches. The post-office informed the public on July 15th, 1785, of the innovation which was to take place. I will give it in full from the *Mercury*:—

POST-OFFICE MANCHESTER *July 15, 1785.*

A further extension of Mr Palmer's Plan will take place at this Office on Sunday 24th when it will be opened every day (except Friday) for receiving all letters for London & the intermediate Places till 11 o'clock at night & for the delivery of all letters at the Office from thence as soon after 8 o'clock at night as they can possibly be sorted after their arrival till 10 on the same night.

The Letters will not be delivered at the Town till the following morning, nor any business transacted at the Office on Sundays from 10 in the morning till after evening Service. Mr Palmer surveyed the Roads to this Town.

Mess. Grey & Wilson, the contractors for carrying these mails have agreed to convey them in 24 hours to & from London & this place for the further accommodation of the inhabitants. The Mail-Coach is intended to leave London at 8 every night & arrive here at the same hour the following eve. To leave Manchester at 6 every morning & arrive in London the following morning at the same hour.

Distance from the General Post-Office London to the Post-Office, Manchester upwards of 190 Miles.*

"Miss Willatt in 1792," writes Joyce,† "achieved some little public notoriety. As an inducement to persons to

* The draft of above announcement is in Manchester Miscellaneous Papers, 1784-91, in the Reference Library. † Joyce, p. 292.

post early she imposed a late-letter fee. For this proceeding, not at that time uncommon, and not disapproved of at headquarters, she was cited before the Leet Court and fined. At her time the postmaster's salary was at Manchester £100."* The Manchester postmarks were altered incessantly, both as to shape and size, in her latter declining years. They do not seem to have given to the restless old postmistress the ideal satisfaction she desired for them. I wish you to examine them more closely.†

On the retirement of the aged postmistress the office was filled by James Harrop (1793–1806). Post business had increased largely in the town, and consequently it was necessary to increase the staff. Four clerks and five additional letter-carriers were appointed, and for the further benefit and convenience of the inhabitants a Penny Post-office was granted to Manchester, besides four additional receiving offices were opened. An announcement in the *Mercury* gives us the details how it was to be worked. I have copied the text of the promulgation:—

POST-OFFICE, MANCHESTER, *April 15, 1793.*

His Majesty's Post Master Geueral, having been pleased to settle & establish a Penny Post Office in the Town of Manchester & the Suburbs thereof & the Places adjacent;

Notice is hereby given That Offices are opened for the receipt of Letters & Parcels, not exceeding four Ounces weight, at the following Places: (1) In High Street, near Church Street. (2) The Upper End of Piccadilly. (3) The Upper End of Deansgate, near Quay Street. (4) In Salford, near the Chapel.

And also at the Principal Post-Office in Queen Street, St. Ann's from which Places Deliveries will be made all over the Town Twice a Day, viz. 8 in the morning & half past Twelve at noon. Before which Times, Letters should be put into the above Offices, in order to be sent by the quickest Conveyance—for the Carriage of which, One penny will be charged in the Town & Two-pence for such as are for the Places adjacent, & within the Penny Post Delivery.

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* Joyce, p. 295.

† See my collection of local postmarks, abstracts, maps, plans, &c., in the Reference Library, King Street.

Letters intended for the General Post for London & all Parts, may, on Payment of One-penny with them, be put into any of the Four Receiving Houses, to be conveyed to the Principal Office at the proper Times for their being circulated by the Several Posts without Delay.

The Receiving Houses will be open from Seven in the Morning till Nine at Night, for that Purpose; & the Postage both on Foreign and Inland paid Letters, will be received at them, the same as at the Principal Office.

Letter Carriers will be despatched regularly every Day (Sunday's excepted) with the Letters to and from Middleton, Ashton-under-line, Staley-Bridge, and Oldham; also to Saddleworth, four Times a week, and to other Places, of which due Notice will be given.

It is the wish of the Post Master General, rather to prevent than to punish. Therefore that the unwary may be made acquainted with the Penalties, they are subject to, by illegally conveying Letters within the Precincts of the Penny Post Delivery, the following Extract of 5th Geo. 3d is added by their Lordships' order (follows thus):

"N.B.—The Penalties to be incurred by the 9th Queen Anne, are Five Pounds for every Letter or Packet, illegally collected, carried, or delivered, whether for Hire or not, and One Hundred Pounds for every Week such Practices are Continued.

"By Command of the Post-master General.

"GEO. WESTERN Surveyor G.P.O."

During the year 1794-5 the penny post brought a clear gain to the revenue in Manchester of £586.*

The new postmaster, desirous of causing a more prompt dispatch of the letters by the letter carrier, made some suggestions to the public to that effect, which are found in the columns of the *Mercury*, April 22nd, 1793, which I have transcribed:—

POST OFFICE, MANCHESTER, *April 22, 1793.*

For the Convenience of this Town, their Lordships the Post-Masters General have directed Two Deliveries by the Letter-Carriers each Day—One in the Morning, and a Second with the Letters from Scotland, and those brought by the Yorkshire Mail Coach. In order, therefore, to enable the Deputy Postmaster to carry their Lordships good Intentions into Execution, the following Hints are submitted to the Inhabitants of Manchester, Salford and the Neighbourhood, as necessary for their own accommodation:—

(I.) That the Letter-Carriers be never detained unnecessarily.

(II.) As they will use a Double Knock at Private Houses, it is requested that the quickest Attendance should be given them.

* Joyce, p. 301.

(III.) The Gentlemen at the different Factories, Warehouses, etc., are requested to permit all Letters for their Servants and Persons in their Employ, to be left at their Counting Houses, and if not owned by the Parties, they will be taken back by the Letter-Carrier—a great deal of Time having been hitherto lost by the Carriers going over the different Stories of Warehouses, etc., which can be saved by the above Permission.

(IV.) The Carriers will be furnished with Cards, specifying the Time of their Departure from this Office, which such as receive their Letters late are requested to demand a sight of, and to send Notice of any Delay to the Post Office.

(V.) It is hoped that by these Means, Letters may be delivered to every Part of the Town by an early Hour of the Morning and Evening.

JAMES HARROP,
Deputy Post-Master.

New postal regulations for the town were issued in 1794* regarding the hours letters had to be posted for the various mails. They were as under:—

POSTS OPENS 8, SHUTS 10.

Warrington ... ... Liverpool... ... ... Chester ... ... North Wales ... ... Ireland	shuts 12 o'clock, opens 1.
Rochdale... ... ... Halifax ... ... Leeds ... ... York... ... ... Hull ... ... And all other parts of Scotland and North of Ireland	open before 8 o'clock morning, post goes 9 o'clock.
Warrington ... ... Liverpool... ... ... Knutsford ... ... Birmingham ... ... Bristol ... ... Plymouth	to post before 6 o'clock evening, leave 7 o'clock.
Chorley ... ... Preston ... ... Lancaster ... ... Kendal ... ... Carlisle	to post before 10 o'clock, leave 2 in morning.

London mail arrives every morning (except Tuesday) and dispatched every night except Friday.

* See Scholes's Manchester and Salford Directory, p. 187.

It will be recollected that in 1753 a clause had been inserted in an Act by which a letter containing patterns or samples, if it did not weigh as much as one ounce, was to be charged as a double letter and no more; by an Act passed in 1795 a packet of patterns or samples might pass as a single letter, if they did not exceed one ounce and were left open at the sides, and containing no other writing than the name and address of the sender and the prices of the articles as per sample.*

Post-rates were further increased in 1797, which were a great burden on trade, causing much grumbling and evasion by private and clandestine transmission whenever possible:—

POSTAGE IN 1797.

	Single. d.	Double. d.	Treble. d.	Ounze. d.
Up to 15 miles	3	6	9	12
Above 15 ,, to 30 miles ...	4	8	12	16
30 ,, ,, 60 ,, ...	5	10	15	20
60 ,, ,, 100 ,, ...	6	12	18	24
100 ,, ,, 150 ,, ...	7	14	21	28
150 & above	8	16	24	32

The duties of the postmaster increased largely in consequence of the mail coach services, which implied a great amount of additional work. Nemnich, who visited the town in 1799, says he has now a splendid title, and is styled "Superintendent of the Mail Coaches."

A few words now about the location of the post-office. We have seen that in the sixteenth and seventeeth centuries the post was in the hands of the leading innkeepers of the town, for the great convenience of a ready supply of post-horses, which were required for carrying on the services, and the travelling public. When the conditions of the town changed the post was separated, and given to

* Joyce, p. 315.

a new order of postmasters, who had to devote themselves strictly to postal matters alone. The centre of the post had been during something like one hundred and sixty years in Market Place, and connected with the successive proprietors of the Bull's Head Inn, from which position all the chief affairs of the town were reflected, all the more eminent visitors and townsmen resorted to it, and its history faithfully mirrors that of the town. We are ignorant of the sites occupied by Lightboune and his successors until we come to Isaac Clegg, whose office, doubtless, was in Queen Street, at the corner of the Back Square. We read in the *Mercury*, July 30th, 1765:

> Wm Nabb, of Manchester, Attorney & Solicitor in the High Court of Chancery, intends to follow the above business in a house, near the Post office, late in the possession of Mr Crane,

and the directory of 1772 tells us that "Wm Crane, Yarn merchant lived in the Back Square." This fixes the place.

In 1772 it is described in the directory St. Ann Square; 1773, 12, St. Ann Square; 1788, facing Queen Street; 1794, 9, Back Square, and it probably corresponds with a former corner house opposite Mr. Beaver, 7, St. Ann Street.

When Harrop became postmaster he transferred it to his own premises, 40, Market Place. On his resignation in 1806 it was removed to the ground floor at the back of the new exchange. In 1840 it was installed at No. 3, Brown Street, under the Borough Court House, which is described as a wretched, gloomy hole, quite insufficient for its purpose. In 1857, owing to the inadequacy of the building, the business of the money order department was carried on in a spacious room at the top of King Street. The new General Post-office opened in 1884 in Spring Gardens.

CHRONOLOGY OF MANCHESTER POSTMASTERS.

Our first postmaster, as far as we can trace, was RICHARD HALLIWELL, of Bull's Head Inn, in the Market Place, during the reign of Charles I. (1625–1648). He belonged to an old Manchester stock, and is already mentioned in 1572. There were various generations bearing the same Christian name. He was a well-established vintner and tavern keeper, and his was the leading hostelry. At the back was the town's cock-pit, to which the populace and gentry resorted for watching the great matches. He supplied the public banquets, and entertained the bishops and feoffees. In the next century it became the headquarters of the Whigs. One of the oldest inns, it can boast a pedigree of at least 300 years. He used to supply the post-horses in 1631, and appears to have sided with the Royalists. In the course of 1648 he was still taking and receiving post-letters, although acting without official credentials. The office devolved, on the establishment of the Commonwealth, on:

ALEXANDER GREEN (1648–1660). We possess a letter addressed to him, November 28th, 1648, in his capacity of postmaster of Manchester. Green kept the Eagle and Child in St. Mary's Gate,* and divided the town's patronage with Halliwell. His sympathies seem to have been with the parliamentary party, or he may have temporised, for the Eagle and Child was called so in honour of the Derby family. In this very old inn, known already in 1566, and originally held by Ralph Sorocold, Taylor

* In the early part of the eighteenth century it was turned into a coffee house, and called the Eagle and Child Coffee House in 1711; by 1734 it was commonly called the Old Coffee House. See *Memorials of Manchester Streets*, p. 219, by R. W. Procter. Manchester, 1874.

the water-poet experienced from Mistress Sorocold very flattering attentions, and left, as a graceful acknowledgment, commemorative stanzas in recognition of "the good ancient woman." The Green's were popular worthy people, and lasted for a few generations. With the arrival of Charles II., in 1660, the office reverted to the Halliwells.

RICHARD HALLIWELL, a descendant of the above (1660–1662), and, be it noted, he was our first officially recorded postmaster. The party game and the local contentions were fought out on their very doorsteps. These two leading innkeepers, keen rival entertainers, had their political followers. Halliwell's appointment was soon terminated, and he is followed by:

ALEXANDER GREEN (1662–1667). On his death in 1667, there were various candidates for the post. First, his widow, who, however, lost the post because she refused to clear her husband's debts to the office. Robert Bradshaw, another applicant who lived in the Cundith, took meanwhile charge of the packets at her request. He was unsuccessful, and instead,

JEFFREY ALDCROFT, of Knutsford (1667–1672), was entrusted with the office by the Earl of Arlington, Postmaster General, who got it on good certificate and security.* His appointment appears less surprising when recollecting that Knutsford was the first stage of the cross-road, which turned off at Cranage from the great Holyhead road, to Manchester. We have a postmark of Knutsford on one of John Byrom's letters to London,

* See *Guardian*, N. & Q., 1874, No. 428, note from the *Calendar of State Papers* (domestic series).

dated December 6th, 1726. He seems to have sprung from an old Knutsford family, for we read of a William Aldcroft whose will was proved at Chester, 1616. Later on some of this family appear to have drifted to Manchester.

THOMAS ECCLES (1672–1678). Nothing personally is known of him, nor does he appear in the *Court Leet Records*. He may have been the father of:

WILLIAM ECCLES (1678–1687), who succeeded him. He occurs frequently in the *Records* from 1669–1784, and its entries inform us that he was an incorrigible offender of short ale measure, and is regularly twice fined every year for this weakness. He was an innkeeper, and is described "of Market Stead and the Shambles" (vol. v., p. 252).

EDWARD HOLLAND (1687–1691) is mentioned in the *London Gazette*, June 20th, 1687, No. 2,253:—

Stolen the 11th instant from Cockey Moor, in the Parish of Middleton, in Lancashire, a black Horse of about 15 hands high, a bob Tail & curled Mane, 4 years old, the top of his near Ear bit-off. Whoever gives Notice of him to Mr Edward Holland, Post master, in Manchester shall have a Guinea reward.

Probably he also tenanted the Bull's Head Inn. On his death the office was given to his widow.

ANN HOLLAND (1691–1697), who on January 22nd, 169$\frac{5}{6}$, was married* to

RICHARD BLOOMLY, of Hulme (1697–1699), who was made postmaster in her stead.

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* See Collegiate Church Marriage Registers.

We pass now to:

WILLIAM BOWKER (1699–1710), of the Bull's Head Inn. Bp. Wm. Nicolson, of Carlisle, writes in his diary: "We lodged at the Bull's Head, Mr. W. Booker in the Mercate-place."* He was buried March 2nd, 170$\frac{8}{9}$, and his will proved at Chester in 1709.† He was amerced in 1660 for not keeping the assize of ale.‡

JAMES LIGHTBOUNE (1710–1715). We have a James Lightboune, Esq., feoffee of Chetham College, in 1675 and 1699,§ who possibly was this person. He belonged to a well-known old Pendleton family. We have the *infra* will at Chester, 1715, of James Lightboune, of Pendleton, Yeo.‖

JAMES GUY (1715–1721). His house in Deansgate figures on Whitworth's South-west Prospect of Manchester. He appears once (October 1st, 1731) in the *Records*, vol. vii., as fined, not keeping his street clean. He both entered, and went out with the Postmasters General, Charles Lord Cornwallis and James Craggs.

THOMAS ILLINGWORTH (1721–1740) was descended from a worthy local family. His forbear Thomas was boroughreeve in 1658 to 1660 and is mentioned in the *Records* in 1662 (vol. v., p. 13) and again 1668 (vol. v., p. 255), living in churchyard site and Hunt's Bank, and as a miselayer in 1669, who, together with Samuel

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* See index to the present volume.
† See Collegiate Church Marriage Registers.
‡ *Records*, vol. iv., p. 278.
§ See Chetham Society's *Life of Humphrey Chetham*, ii., pp. 234-5.
‖ See note above, "Collegiate," &c.

Harmer and John Sandiford, surveyed the lands and tenements for the court leet. He is once alluded to, in 1759, in connection with Thomas, a son of his, as Thomas Illingworth, late postmaster of Manchester, deceased.*

JOHN FINCH (1740–1748). No information can be gathered about him. His will was proved at Chester; admin., 1749,† wherein he is styled "John Finch, of Manchester, gent."

ISAAC CLEGG (1748–1768), of another old local family, and was appointed as officer for muzzling mastiffs, in King Street and "Tib lane ffield," in 1733 and 1735. In the *Constable's Accounts* are some entries:—

1757 (vol. iii., p. 101). Novbr. 25th Disbursements by Mr Clegg for express (anent the mob come from Ashton under Lyne in a food riot) ... ... £3. 12. 8.
1763 (p. 163). April 5th. Paid Mr Clegg an express for soldiers ... ... £2. 10. 0.
1768 (vol. iii., p. 183). Sep. 20th. To Isaac Clegg for New Water Bucket for the use of the Engine ... £18. 17. 0.

He became bodily incapacitated for work, and was therefore relieved of his duties, which had meanwhile been performed by his clerk, Willatt. He resigned on November 18th, 1768, and was succeeded by the latter. He held the office for twenty years, a longer term than any of his predecessors, except Illingworth. His death took place on February 13th, 1770, and the *Mercury*, referring to the event, writes:

On Sunday morning died after a long and tedious illness Mr. Isaac Clegg, many years Postmaster in this town, which office he discharged by a constant attendance on his duty, and a readiness to oblige.

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* Chetham Society, *History of Newton Heath*, vol. i., p. 199 *n*.
† See note above, "Collegiate" &c.

We possess an autograph of his, in a letter he marked "free."

JOHN WILLATT (1768–1772). His ancestors date back a long way in local records. Thomas Willatt was the son and heir of Thomas Willatt, the elder, who came from Fenny Stratford, co. Bucks, and settled in Manchester about 1556, and was living there in 1561. Thomas Willatt, the younger, married Ellen, fifth and youngest daughter of Sir Edmund Trafford, of Trafford (vol. i., 190 *n*). He was borough reeve in 1562–3, and afferator and juror in 1569 (p. 127–8). John Willatt was born in 1731, and married Sarah Benson, April 25th, 1754, who was of his age. An entry in the *Constable's Accounts* runs:

Octbr. 17th, 1770: To Postage of 62 Hue and Cry warrants paid Mr Willatt, £1. 17. 2.

He had a family of nine children, of which he lost two in 1763, and two in 1772. His tombstone in St. Ann's Church reads:

Here was interred
John Willatt, late Post Master of the Town,
Who departed this life July 24, 1772, aged 41 years.

The *Mercury*, July 28th, 1772, alludes to his death as follows:

On Friday last died Mr. John Willatt, Postmaster in this town, second to none in this part of the Kingdom in the knowledge of his profession; he discharged it with a diligence and impartiality which rendered him beloved and respected by all; benevolent and sociable in his disposition, he was esteemed by those who knew him, as a sincere friend and an honest man, and as a kind husband and a tender parent, his death is much lamented by a wife and four children.

The public were much concerned, and general sympathy was extended to his afflicted widow. Prompt steps were

taken to secure to her the succession of the office; we read, therefore, August 4th, 1772 (*Mercury*):

His Majesty's Postmaster General has been pleased to appoint Mrs. Sarah Willatt, widow of the late Mr. Willatt; to be Deputy Post Mistress of this Town,"

and on the 11th (*Mercury*):

Mrs. Willatt, now Post Mistress of Manchester, begs leave to return her sincere thanks to the Gentlemen of the Town and Neighbourhood thereof for their kind petition to the Postmaster General in her favour, and she hopes that by a regular discharge of her duties she will meet with the approbation of the Publick.

Mrs. SARAH WILLATT (1772–1793). She was appointed on July 28th. This explains the otherwise bewildering entry in Mrs. Raffald's *Directory of Manchester*, which is given thus:—

1772. Willet, John, Master of Post Office, St Ann's Square. Willet John, Deputy Post Master, St Ann's Square.
1773. Willet, Sarah, Mistress of the Post Office, 12, St Ann's Square.

The address is rendered in—

1781. Willet Sarah, Post Mis., Post Office, Queen Street.
1788. Mrs. Willatt, Keeper of the Post Office, facing Queen Street, St Ann's.

The brave old postmistress was relieved of her duties on April 5th, 1793, and rewarded with a pension of £120 for her useful and strenuous services, with a reversion of one-third of that amount to her daughter,* who, with the exception of a single letter-carrier (James Barkeley, residing at New Cross), had conducted the whole of the

* See Joyce, pp. 292 and 301. *Mercury*, 1792: Married July 3, at the Collegiate Church, Mr. Duxbury to Miss Willatt, daughter of Mrs. Willatt at the Post Office.

post-office business with her mother. Henceforth she lived in and is described as—

1794. Mrs. Sarah Willat, 9, Back Square, close by the office.
1797. Willat Sarah, 62, Water Street.
1800. Willat Sarah, 62, Water Street.

She died December 25th, 1801, and was buried by the side of her husband.

The *Mercury* dedicates a few words to her memory:—

December 29th, 1801: Friday, died at an advanced age (70), Mrs. Willatt, formerly Postmistress of this Town, a situation she filled to the entire satisfaction of this populous place; she lived respected, and her death is much lamented.

JAMES HARROP (1793–1806). The newly elected postmaster was a popular man. Joseph, his father, memorable as the founder and proprietor of the Manchester *Mercury* (1752–1809), a newspaper existing for fifty-seven years, retired from it in favour of his son James. The latter is described in the directory as "printer of the *Mercury*, stamp distributor, postmaster, bookseller, stationer, and medicine vendor, in 1794, at 40, Market Place." His salary was £300.* Four clerks were at the same time appointed, at salaries ranging from £50 to £100, and five additional letter-carriers, at wages of 12s. a week. "Thus," remarks Joyce, "Manchester suddenly found itself in possession of a post-office establishment with which, outside London, that of no other town in the kingdom could compare." As a sequel a penny post was opened in July, 1793. On his resignation he was succeeded by

The Rev. RICHARD HUTCHINS WHITELOCK (1806–1828). He resided at Chorlton-cum-Hardy, of which place he was incumbent.† He resigned the office of postmaster in 1828, and died in 1835.

* See Joyce, p. 301.
† See *Reminiscences of Manchester*, J. T. Slugg, 1881, p. 203.

ROBERT PEEL WILLOCK (1828–1860), a cousin of Sir Robert Peel. In 1829 there were eight clerks, twelve letter-carriers, and three country messengers; in 1839 the letter-carriers were increased to twenty-three, and the number of subscribers to letter boxes at the post amounted to one thousand at one guinea per annum. Of him Mr. F. E. Baines* writes: "He was an excellent officer, if at last rather a choleric old gentleman. One of his very intelligible dislikes was being plagued with official papers after four o'clock, when his brougham was in waiting at the door."

JOHN ST. LAWRENCE BEAUFORT (1860–1887). In 1879 the staff of clerks had risen to 244.

ROBERT WILSON JOHNSTON.

HENRY OSBORNE HARLEY.

JOHN PHILIPS, nominated 1901.

I have not touched upon Foreign and Colonial mails, as being outside my scope. My aim has been to try and trace the small beginnings of the Manchester Post-office, and to follow it from its source; it is but a picture, and fragmentary at the best. We gain a passing glimpse here and there, mere dim outlines; the inner working, with its many wheels, and the romance connected with it; the worries and toils in severe seasons, the dangers and adventures of the riding post, often enough forced to fight for sheer life and the retention of his precious trust, waylaid, as he was, on the road by daring foot-pad and

* *On the Track of the Mail Coach*, F. E. Baines, London, 1896, p. 207.

armed highwayman, will ever remain a sealed chapter. I have brought it up to the dawn of the past century, and here I must stop. Finally, I trust our esteemed and genial postmaster may continue the incomplete tale, for there is none who knows so intimately the intricate ins and outs of its marvellous modern structure.

I must express my best thanks to the Record Committee, General Post-office, London, for the list of Manchester postmasters; to Mr. John Philips, the Manchester postmaster, for having directed me to it; to Mr. C. W. Sutton, the city chief librarian, for procuring for me the inspection of some packets of Clowes letters, and to Messrs. Francis and Albert Nicholson for permission to make notes of the postmarks occurring in the Nicholson family letters of the eighteenth century; to Mr. Ernest Axon for some dates and references; and to Mr. Mullen for transcription of the post regulations of 1721.

APPENDIX.

Style of Address: Examples in the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries.

21 April, 1580, from Myles Aspinall, Christ Church, Oxford.

To the right worshipfull
his singular and approved
good Mr, Mr Wilton Farring-
tō esquire at his house
at Handley geve this
wth convenient speed
ffrō Oxōn.

Wigan, 2 Martij, 1635

To his lovinge ffriende Humfrey
Chetham Esqre att Mr Hallywell's
house in Manchester the signe of
the Bull's heade theis de.

London, Jany. 30, 1648, from Raphe Brideoke, at Bossom's Inn:

For Humphrey Cheetham of Clayton, Eq
my very honourd friend
viâ Manchester, Lanr 6d.
leave this with Mr Greene in Manchester
these with my service.

Holborne, May 9, 1648, from Edward Croston, at the Blue Bell:

To the right worll and my very good
Master Humfry Chetham Esqr at
Clayton or elsewhere 6d.
haste these
Leave this with Mr Halliwells in
Manchester to bee conveyed with speed
Manchester.

from Br Jo Tilston, April 5, 1655:

ffor ye Reverend my much
honod Br Mr Hollinworth
minister of ye Gospell
at Manchester
these at his house in ye Milngate.

To George Chetham Esq or Mr
Edward Chetham his brother
and to both either of them
att Boulton
or elsewhere att
Turton Tower or
Smedley Milnes
hast ths pray.

A letter of 16 Novb 1648 has written on it "the post paid."
Another, 11 April, 1648, has written on it "the post is payd 6d."*

Ex Walmsley Papers.

1672/1673. London Journey (To London.)

Nov.	1. Paid for the horses at Wiggan and spent at Chorley	ooo.	oo.	8.
	2. Give the servants at Garswood	o.	11.	o.
	Paid at Warrington	o.	2.	2.
	3. The Reckoning at Holmes Chappell	o,	8.	8.
	ffor the horses 5s. 6d. and to the Servant 1s. 10d. all	o.	7.	4.
	a Baite at Stone	o.	3.	6.
	4. the Bill at Lichfield	o.	10.	10.
	the horses there 5s. 8d., To the Servants 2s. ...	o.	7.	8.
	A Baite at Coventry	o.	4.	9.
	A horse hire at Coventry	o.	1.	6.
	Given to the hostler, and to the Poore	o.	o.	10.
	5. The Reckoning at Daintry	1.	o.	11.
	for the horse there 5s. 8d. To the Servant 2s. 6d.	o.	8.	2.
	To a Guide in Whichwood forrest	o.	o.	6.
	A baite in Stony Stratford	o.	3.	8.
	6. the Reckoning at Brickhill	o.	8.	3.
	The horses there 5s. 10d. To the Servant, 2s. ...	o.	7.	10.
	A Baite at St Albans	o.	5.	2.
	ffor the horses there and to the Poor	o.	1.	o.
	7. Paid the Tapster for bread and beere at the Red Lyon the first night	o.	4.	10.
	To my Master at the Inn	1.	o.	c.

Disbursement, 1673. (Return Journey from London.)

Jan.	19. My owne bord wages 10 weeks and 4 days	£4.	4.	o.
	20. Paid the Bill at St Albans	o.	15.	o.
	for the horses 6s. 10d. To the Servants 3s. ...	o.	9.	10.
	21. Paid the Bill at Towcester	o.	11.	8.
	the Horses there 6s. 4d. Give the Servans 2s. 6d. ...	o.	8.	10.

* See Chetham Papers, Chetham Library.

Jan. 21.	Spent at Daventry	0.	2.	10.
	Spent at Dunchurch	0.	0.	4.
	A Guide to Weston	0.	2.	6.
22.	Give the Servants at Weston	0.	13.	0.
	Paid a messenger to Coventry	0.	2.	6.
	To the Smith for Shooing 3 horses round	0.	6.	0.
	ffor Wine at Coventry and for ale at Meriden ...	0.	0.	10.
23.	The Bill at Lichfield	0.	10.	4.
	the horses there	0.	8.	0.
	to the Servants	0.	2.	4.
	for mending my Masters Gamasha's	0.	0.	3.
	A Baite at Stone	0.	4.	0.
	the horses there	0.	0.	4.
24.	the Reckoning at Holmes Chappell	0.	10.	10.
	ffor the horses there 6s. Give the Servants 2s. ...	0.	8.	0.
	Paid at Warrington	0.	2.	10.
	Give to the Servants at Garswood	0.	14.	6.
	,, ,, ,, at Standish	0.	11.	0.

List of the Inns in London where the Lancashire, etc., Carriers Stay, 1732.

Boulton in the Moor, Car., Bell, Wood Street (F.)
Blackburn, Car. ... ... ,, ,, ,, (F.)
Chester, Co. ... ... George, Aldersgate Street (M., W. & F.)
* ,, Car.... ... ... Castle and Falcon, Aldersgate Street (M. and Th.) and Blossom's Inn, Lawrence Street (S.)
Chorley & Clitheroe, Car. Swan Two Necks, Lad Lane (F.)
Droitwich, Car. ... ... Saracen's Head, Snowhill (S.)
*Knotsford, Wag. ... ... Castle and Falcon, Aldersgate Street, Swan Two Necks (F.)
Kendal, Car. ... ... Castle, Wood Street (F.)
Lancaster, Co. ... ... Bell (T., Th. and S.)
,, Car. ... ... Swan Two Necks (F.)
*Leverpool, Car. ... ... Castle and Faulcon (Th., F.), Bell (F.)
*Macclesfield, Car. ... ... ,, ,, (S.), Swan Two Necks (F.
Middlewich, Car. ... ... Bell (F.)
*Manchester, Car ... ... Castle and Faulcon (F.), Blossom's Inn (F.)
*Nantwich, Car. ... ... Castle and Faulcon (F.), Blossom's Inn (M.)
Northwich, Car. ... ... Bell (F.)
Newton, Car. ... ... Bell (F.)
Ormskirk, Car. ... ... Ax; Aldermanbury (Th.)

PRESTON, Car. ...	...	... Swan Two Necks (F.)
PRESCOT, Car. ...	...	... Bell (F.)
ROCHDALE, Car.	...	... Bell (F.)
*STOCKPORT, Car.	...	... Castle and Faulcon (F.)
WARRINGTON, Co.	...	... George, Aldersgate Street (M., W.)
,,	& WIGGAN, Car.	Bell and Castle, Wood Street (F.)

Co. = Stage Coaches, the Letters stand for the day.
Car. = Carriers.

MANCHESTER POSTMARKS.

I give a list of some of the postmarks extant :—

1706. Printed in one line, $1\frac{3}{4}$ inches long, letters $\frac{3}{16}$ inch high, the HE and TE ligulated. (Clowes.)

1726. A letter from Dr. Byrom to London has only the Knutsford mark on, divided thus: KNOTS / FORD (Chetham Society.)

1729. In two straight lines MAN $\frac{1}{2}$ inch long. / CHESTER 1 inch long.

1759. Divided MANCH / ESTER $1\frac{3}{16}$ inches long. / do. (Nicholson.)

1762. From Liverpool; "To lie at the Post Office till called for in Manchester." (Nicholson.)

1764. Divided MANCHES / TER $1\frac{5}{8}$ inches long, letters $\frac{1}{4}$ inch high. / $\frac{1}{2}$ inch long. (Clowes.)

1766. A letter from Shipley to Castleton, near Rochdale, by "Manchester Bagg." (Clowes.)

1767. Divided as in 1764. (Nicholson.)

1781. Divided as in 1767. (Reference Library.)

1785. Divided MAN $\frac{5}{16}$ inch long, $\frac{3}{16}$ inch high. / CHESTER $1\frac{5}{16}$ inches long. (Nicholson.)

1786 Divided as in 1785 $\frac{3}{4}$ inch long, $\frac{1}{4}$ inch high. / 2 inches long. (Nicholson.)

Both stamps used up to June 15.

1787A. Stamped now in curve MANCHES / TER $1\frac{1}{8}$ inches long, $\frac{1}{8}$ inch high. / $\frac{7}{16}$ inch long.

Date of letter, 7th Oct. (Nicholson.) Was only an experimental stamp.

1787B. Stamped in curve, divided the same way $1\frac{7}{8}$ inches long, $\frac{1}{4}$ inch high. / $\frac{1}{2}$ inch long.

26th Oct. (Nicholson.) Used to end of 1789.

1790A. In curve, same as in 1787, only a greater space between the two lines. (Nicholson.) Used to 14th Oct., 1790.

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* *New Remarks of London, with a Survey of London and Southwark and Middlesex, Collected by the Co of Parish Clerks.* London, 1732.

1790B. Stamped in one straight line MANCHESTER $2\frac{1}{4}$ inches long, $\frac{3}{16}$ inch high. (Nicholson.) Used to 21st Jan., 1791.

1791. In two lines, in italics MAN CHETER (slanting) $\frac{3}{4}$ inch long, $\frac{1}{4}$ inch high. $1\frac{5}{8}$ inch long. (Nicholson.) Used through 1791, except 29th Oct., when it is stamped as 1790B.

1792. Straight stamp (1790B) used 8th Jan. (Nicholson.)

1792. Unringed circular stamp, but open at the bottom, M and R not reaching each other; diameter of circle, $1\frac{1}{8}$ inches; letters, $\frac{3}{16}$ inch high. (Nicholson.)

1793. Circular, as in 1792, and used yet in 1795. (Reference Library.

1805. MANCHESTER in ringed circle with date inside 28 FEB., 1805. (Nicholson.)

1815. MANCHESTER in large curve, ringed below the bottom of letters, inside the curve 22 NOV. 18 185 185 expresses most likely the mileage from London. (Reference Library.)

POSTMASTERS IN LANCASHIRE IN 1811.

ROCHDALE ... ... Jane Lee, Post-mistress, South Parade, near the Bridge-end.
HEYWOOD ... ... at the Queen Anne, John Bentley.
BURY ... ... Henry Whitehead, corner of the Millgate,
BURNLEY ... ... Isaac Cartmell, Market Place.
ASHTON UNDER LYNE ... David Tinker, Scotland Street.
MOSSLEY ... ... Mary Buckley, Post-mistress, at the Bull's Head.
STALEYBRIDGE ... ... James Buckley.
ECCLES ... ... at the Duke of York's Inn, John Yates.
MIDDLETON ... ... Mrs. Anne Golightly, post mistress and grocer, Market House.
OLDHAM ... ... William Bamford, Market Place.
CROMPTON ... ... Letter man, William Butterworth.
DIDSBURY ... ... Thomas Wood (Clerk of St James and Post-master), near the Church.
RADCLIFFE ... ... at the Boar's Head (Peter Walker, victualler).

It will be seen from above list that even at that time some of the rural post-offices were still in charge of innkeepers, as at Rochdale, Mossley, Eccles, and Radcliffe; at Rochdale, Mossley, and Middleton post-mistresses were presiding over the post.

ON TWO VOTIVE RAG-BRANCHES AND A PRAYER-STICK IN THE MANCHESTER MUSEUM.

BY WILLIAM E. A. AXON.

THE Manchester Museum at the Owens College contains two votive rag-branches and a prayer-stick or tally. These curious evidences of the survival of ancient forms of worship are noteworthy.*

The first of the rag-branches comes from an island in Gougane Barra Lough, county Cork, where there is a famous holy well, dedicated to St. Finbar. The prayer-stick comes from the same locality. The scene at Gougane

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* There are many references to the subject in the works of travellers and anthropologists. The following list will be found useful:—

The Legendary Lore of the Holy Wells of England, including Rivers, Lakes, Fountains, and Springs. By Robert Charles Hope, F.S.A. London, 1893.

The Holy Wells of Ireland. By Philip Dixon Hardy, M.R.I.A. Dublin, 1840.

Folk-lore of Scottish Lochs and Springs. By James M. Mackinlay, M.A. Glasgow, 1893.

Celtic Folk-lore. By John Rhŷs. Oxford, 1901. 2 vols.

Ethnology in Folk-lore. By G. L. Gomme. London, 1892.

Rag Offerings, &c. By William Copeland Borlase (*Athenæum*, April 1st, 1893).

Rag-bushes. By M. J. Walhouse (*Journal of the Anthropological Institute*, 1880, vol. ix., p. 97).

Ancient and Holy Wells of Cornwall. By M. and L. Quiller-Couch. London, 1894.

Traces of the Elder Faiths of Ireland. By W. G. Wood-Martin. London, 1902. 2 vols.

Rag Offering
from Chibbyr-Beltain, Isle of Man.
Coll. Charles Roeder.

Barra Lough is graphically described by Thomas Crofton Croker, but his description is too long to be quoted in full. The lake is surrounded by barren mountains, and in its centre is a small island connected with the mainland by an artificial causeway. On St. John's Day, 1813, Croker witnessed the famous "pattern" of St. Finbar. As he and his companions forded the eastern end of the lake they could hear the noise of the assembled people, who were nearly half a mile away. From the shore of the lake to the wall of the chapels on the island there was an immense crowd, all engaged in reciting prayers. A piece of rusty iron of this shape passed from one devotee to another. It was placed three times, with a short prayer, across the head of the nearest person, to whom it was then handed that he might go through the same ceremony with his next neighbour. Part of the lake was enclosed as a well. Here a man made the figure of a cross on a particular stone in the wall, and then sold the slate to any who cared to buy such a memorial of their visit. Those having sores or other infirmities crowded into the well, and as quickly as they came out their place was taken by others. Bottles containing some water of the well were also for sale. Drunken men and depraved women mingled with the pilgrims, "and a confused uproar of prayers and oaths, of sanctity and blasphemy, sounded in the same instant on the ear." Along the shore were booths and tents, in which food and drink were sold. Almost every tent had its piper, and dancing was general. Things quietened towards midnight, but "the dancing, drinking, roaring, and singing were, in some degree, kept up during the night." The principal building on the main island is a rudely formed circular wall, having in its thickness nine arched recesses or cells, called chapels, each devoted to a particular saint, with a plain flagstone altar in each.

In the centre of this enclosure was a wooden pole, the remains of a large cross. Hundreds of votive rags and bandages are nailed against it, and also the spancels of cattle that have been driven through the lake as a preservative from murrain.* Such, in brief, is Crofton Croker's account of the place and festival from which the votive rag-branch and prayer-stick has come.

The votive rags are a common feature in connection with various holy wells in Ireland. At Tobar Mhic Duach, co. Galway, there was a niche on the lefthand side of the well, and in this the pilgrims placed "a few worthless rags, brass pins, and the like." At the holy well of St. Senanus at Castle Connel, near Limerick, Mr. H. D. Inglis in 1834 saw hundreds of little wooden vessels, the offerings of those who had come to drink, while "the trees that overshadowed the well were entirely covered with shreds of all colours—bits and clippings of gowns and handkerchiefs and petticoats—remembrances, also, of those who had drank."† Philip Dixon Hardy mentions that Croagh Patrick, co. Mayo, where the patron saint is said to have performed his miracle of driving the venomous creatures into the sea, is a favourite place of pilgrimage. In one part is a well to which the blind and lame resort and pray to be cured. At Aughrwall is another well, which could be used for the injury of an enemy. The method was to take a piece of flag known as St. Columbkill's slate and turn it upside down, then returning home to fast fifteen days, taking only bread and water once in each twenty-four hours. This was expected to ensure the death of the person fasted against.‡ Another

* Croker: *Researches in South of Ireland.* London, 1824. pp. 274 *et seq.*

† Inglis: *Ireland in 1834*, i. 318.

‡ The famous cursing well at Llanelian, near Abergele, is another example of the invocation of evil by means of offerings at a well.

part of the Croagh Patrick pilgrimage was to two old trees near Aughagour. "The people cut off their hair, both men and women, and take horse shoes and brogue nails, pins and needles, and fasten them to the trees; they also cut up their clothes, be they ever so new, and tie them to these trees, lest on the day of judgment the Almighty should forget that they came there, and in order that the tokens should be known when St. Patrick would lay them before the tribunal" (Hardy, p. 54). This is, of course, a modern gloss as to these votive offerings, and another explanation will be mentioned later. Dr. O'Donovan has called Croagh Patrick "the regular Mecca of Ireland," and mentions his own visit to the place. The little chapel known as Teampull-Phatruig is only sixteen feet long and eight broad, and the east gable, which is eight and a half feet high, contains many votive rags and nails thrust in between the stones. By the advice of the guide Dr. O'Donovan left a rag of his own coat, though he confessed to be but a weak believer. The whole of Dr. O'Donovan's description is most interesting. The circuits are in threes, sevens, and fifteens, and Mr. Borlase mentions the noteworthy fact that the first station, Patrick's altar, has cup markings and concentric circles on it, and these are arranged in threes, sevens, and fifteens. He asks—Can these circles have been formed as indications of the ritual to be performed, or as records of its performance? and he quotes a passage from Cormac's glossary, who refers to the figure of the sun as one of those carved on idol altars. The circuits are still performed sunways and often round wells. These are circumstances that point to the connection of the holy wells with the ancient sun worship.

Mr. R. Standen, of the Manchester Museum, who visited Sheen, Kenmare, in company with the late Mr.

Thomas Rogers, informed me that he found that the sea now overflows into the Holy Well, and in consequence many of the votive offerings are placed on the east window of the ruined church. Here, it is said, the pilgrims, whilst praying, hold in their hand certain noxious insects, which are then put into bottles along with the illness or sin that has brought the visitor to this shrine. This is a reduction of the "scapegoat" to a minimum. Mr. Rogers made a list of the objects observed in the east window at Sheen. There was an image of the Virgin about twelve inches high and two of smaller size, one brass buckle, one horse shoe, one donkey shoe, one bit of iron, one halfpenny of George III., one shirt stud, three boys' marbles, thirteen pieces of slate pencil, ten horse shoe nails, one crucifix, one piece of white wax which appeared to have melted from a lighted candle and had run over a sea shell (*Aporrhais*), one charm shaped like a small leather bag, with a loop made for a string (the bag was neatly sewn round the edges to keep the contents intact), one fir cone, fifteen buttons, one tooth, one humerus, one fibula, and one tibia (all human), one small piece of cloth, twelve hair-pins, one charm made of a piece of cloth embroidered with antique pattern, and an abundance of old rags tied to the ivy round the window.

Rag-wells occur in Wales. Professor John Rhŷs mentions a case in the neighbourhood of Rhyddu, where, after a little girl's "bad leg" was attended, the rag from the wound was immediately transferred to a thorn bush by the cottage door.* From a memorandum, written in 1892, we learn that persons affected with rheumatism go to Ffynnon Cae Moch, between Coychurch and Bridgend,

* Rhŷs, p. 605.

in Glamorganshire. They bathe the parts affected and afterwards tie a piece of rag to the tree which overhangs the well. The tree was covered with votive rags. Professor Rhŷs, who saw it a year later, mentions other Welsh instances. Rags were used at Llanelian, the "cursing" well, near Abergele, and there it was the rule that they should be fastened to the tree with wool. Ffynnon Eilian was also a pin-well. I first saw this well some twenty years ago, but neither rags nor pins were then visible.

Various Scottish examples are recorded by Mackinlay. Thus, at Montblairie, pieces of linen and woollen stuff were hung on the boughs beside the well, whilst farthings and bodles were thrown into the water. Hugh Miller mentions the rag-branches at St. Bennet's spring, Cromarty.

What was the meaning attached by the pilgrims to placing of the rags on the bush? The Rev. Charles O'Connor, in his *Letters of Columbanus*, says that he asked a very old man to state what advantage was expected to arise from visiting wells near an old blasted oak or an upright unhewn stone, and the custom of sticking rags on the branches of such trees and spitting on them. The answer was that their forefathers did it; that it was a preservative against Geasa-Draoidacht, the sorcery of the Druids; that their cattle were protected from disease; and that the fairies were kept in good humour by it. This suggests that, as so often happens in the case of customs, the observance survives whilst the originating motive is forgotten. Mr. William Copeland Borlase tells us the view that was taken by the peasants of Munster in the middle of the nineteenth century. There the placing of the rags on the bush was held to be a putting away of the evils incurred by sin, as is evident

from the Irish words accompanying the act. These in English read, "By the intercession of the Lord I leave my portion of illness on this place." But often the inquirer would be told that the rags were marks to show that the pilgrim had completed the circuits made from station to station in the course of a pilgrimage. At Glen Columkille, Donegal, the rounds would be three miles in extent, and each station consists of a cairn or a block of stone surmounted by small boulders; these the pilgrim lifted up and passed round his body. This reminded Mr. Borlase of Strabo's account of the pilgrims at the Sacrum Promontorium, now Cape St. Vincent. Other stations were crosses, stone pillars, or rude altars. The last station naturally was the holy well of the ruined church. The rags were sometimes attached to crosses and sometimes to holed stones, as at Port Noo, Donegal.

The second prayer-stick came from Chibbyr-Beltain, near Port Erin, Isle of Man, a holy well which has been described by Mr. Charles Roeder. The water was taken at ebb-tide; the patient, or the person acting for him, tied "a bit of clout on a briar," saying: "I lift this water for the good of such and such a certain man, in the name of God, the Son, and the Holy Ghost."*

The custom of offering rags or parts of clothing by placing them upon trees or bushes is found not only in various parts of Great Britain and Ireland, but even outside the area occupied by Aryan races. It has been observed throughout northern Africa, in western Africa, on the confines of Abyssinia, in Arabia, in Persia, in the Deccan, in Ceylon, on the Himalayas, and in Tartary.

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* Mr. Roeder's paper—an admirable example of how much may still be learned of ancient customs and superstitions by a sympathetic inquirer—will be found in *Yn Lioar Manninagh*, vol. iii., pp. 129–191. See as to Well Worship, pp. 166, 167.

General Pitt-Rivers observes that it is impossible to believe that so singular a custom as this, invariably associated with cairns, megalithic monuments, holy wells, or some such early pagan institutions, could have arisen independently in all these countries.*

Mr. M. J. Walhouse has collected some remarkable instances of this custom. In Afghanistan a certain shrub, whose leaves are poisonous, is decorated with votive rags. Here the intention is evidently to propitiate the spirit of the tree. The old deities were often more feared than loved. In the great Arnemally mountains in Madras is a plain with a great boulder, on which is a rude sculpture of three persons. Near these are eight stone images surrounding a granite pillar. Close by are some champaca and other trees, on which are suspended votive shoes, some of them of enormous proportions. In Eastern Siberia the natives hang all sorts of nicknacks on their sacred trees. Sir John Chardin mentions many sacred trees stuck all over with nails, by which bits of clothing are attached. So in Palestine, the sacred trees are covered with rags tied to the branches. The Cree Indians hung buffalo flesh and pieces of cloth on trees. The great cypress of Mexico had its branches covered with hundreds of locks of coarse hair, teeth, bits of coloured cloth, rags, and morsels of ribbon. In Patagonia the one sacred tree had cigars, bread, meat, pieces of cloth, &c., suspended to its branches by thread. The votive rag is apparently almost world wide.

The prayer-stick is simply a tally on which the pilgrim keeps a record by notches of the number of prayers he has recited. There is an allusion to the prayer-stick in the Rev. James Page's reference to the fun and frolic

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* *Journal of the Ethnological Society*, n.s., i. 64.

which often succeeded the penitential part of the pilgrimage. Speaking of Croagh Patrick, he says: "They then proceed as quickly as possible to *wipe out the nicks of their tally*, and make a clear conscience that they may enjoy, as they say, part of the fun which is below." Thomas Crofton Croker also saw the prayer-stick at Gougane Barra Lough, for he mentions that whilst some used the rosary, others passed pebbles from one hand to the other to count the number of prayers they had recited, "whilst such of them as were not furnished with other means kept their reckoning by cutting a notch on their cudgel, or on a piece of stick provided for the purpose."* The cricketers formerly counted not by runs but by notches. And this is confirmed by perhaps the most famous of all matches, when "All Muggleton had notched some fifty-four, while the score of the Dingley Dellers was as blank as their faces."

The Lancashire holy wells are being passed in review by Mr. Henry Taylor in the papers on the ancient crosses of the county he has contributed to the Lancashire and Cheshire Antiquarian Society. I am not aware of any either in Lancashire or Cheshire that are known as rag-wells. Even in Cornwall, which is rich in holy wells, it is only at Madron Well that votive rags have been seen. "I have not noticed this observance elsewhere in Cornwall," is the statement of Mr. Thomas Quiller-Couch. In the case of St. Ann's Well, at Buxton, offerings of clothing

* At the meeting at which this paper was read, Mr. J. B. Robinson exhibited a prayer-stick which he had brought away from Gougane Barra Lough. This had notches on both sides, whilst the specimen in the Manchester Museum is notched only on one side. The rosary is, of course, the best known of prayer recorders, and is used not only by Roman Catholics, but by Mohammedans, Buddhists, and Hindus. An interesting paper on the "History of the Rosary in all Countries," by Rev. Herbert Thurston, S.J., appears in the *Journal of the Society of Arts*, February 21st, 1902.

were made as late as the time of Henry VIII. Sir William Bassett wrote to Lord Cromwell to say that he had removed the image of the saint, and had refused all would-be patients. "And for that there should be no more idolatry and superstition there used, I did not only deface the tabernacles and places where they did stand but did also take away crutches, shirts, and shifts . . . offered being things that allure and entice the ignorant to the said offering." The only other rag-wells specifically named by Mr. Hope are those at Great Cotes, Ulceby, and Winterton, in Lincolnshire; Newcastle, Benton, St. Bede's Well, Monkton, in Northumberland; and St. Helen's Well, Thorparch, and at Gargrave, in Yorkshire. That is, out of four hundred and fifty wells, only nine are named as having had textile offerings. Doubtless, in many cases, rags or clothes were not observed, and in others were not mentioned from carelessness or ignorance as to their meaning. Pin-wells have been noticed both in Lancashire and Cheshire, but, as already said, no rag-wells have been described. The Romans believed that a genius or nymph presided over every stream, lake, and spring. It is remarkable, however, that no dedicatory inscription to a semi-deity of this character has been found in Lancashire. But at Chester, where the name of the place, Deva Castrum, is derived from the river, there has been preserved an altar inscribed "Nymphis et Fontibus Legio Vicesima V(aleria) V(ictrix)."

The widespread nature of the custom of placing votive rags on trees shows us that we are dealing with an even more primitive idea than that to be found in classical mythology. That streams, and fountains, and trees should be objects of primeval worship is not surprising. The notion that the tree was the abode of a deity or spirit long resisted the efforts of Christianity. The

prohibition of tree worship was often repeated. Sometimes the Christian missionary, unable to eradicate the heathen ideas of his converts, baptised them, so to speak. The nymphs and divinities were replaced by saints and martyrs, and the temples of the pagan divinities were utilised for a purer form of religion. In some cases the old name was replaced by a new one; but the thing remained, and the people flocked to the shrine of a saint to implore his general or special aid, just as their forefathers had done to the demi-god whom he had displaced.

Thus the rag-branch and the prayer-stick bring before us an early page in the history of human development. However crude it may be in appearance, we have here a genuine expression of the religious sentiment—the sense of awe and wonder and of contact with the Unseen.

Yours most truly
& respectfully
Edwin Butterworth

EDWIN BUTTERWORTH: HIS LIFE AND LABOURS.

BY GILES SHAW.

IN the preface to the *History of Lancashire*, 1836, p. xi, Edward Baines remarks: "It is due to Mr. Edwin Butterworth, who has visited all the parishes and townships of the county, without a single exception, for the purpose of collecting local information, and to verify facts already obtained, to say that he has performed his duty with zeal, intelligence, and fidelity."

Such is the sole public acknowledgment which Baines made of the strenuous services of his young assistant Butterworth in perambulating the county and gathering and formulating the necessary particulars for the famous history.

From the letters and rough drafts or copies of letters that passed between Edward Baines and Edwin Butterworth, which fortunately have been saved from destruction and are now carefully preserved in the Oldham Free Library, we shall see what was the rate of payment he received for the immense work he accomplished; and this correspondence will show the measure of credit that should be given to Butterworth for his share in the work. The evidence of the Oldham letters is fully borne out by the MSS. volumes which Baines deposited in Dr.

Shepherd's library at Preston. The MSS. have recently been rebound in seven volumes (four quarto and three octavo), though not in the order that Butterworth sent them. The first parish history that Butterworth sent to Baines, namely, Rochdale, together with the histories of Oldham and Ashton-under-Lyne, are yet unbound. It would perhaps be difficult to bind them, the writing being so close to the edges.

The MSS. are neatly and carefully written, and almost every parish is provided with a sketch or outline map. In the Oldham Library there are almost all the rough note-books of his parish histories, several of them having outline maps and some of them a few drawings. As specimens of his work I present *facsimiles* of Bolton and Radcliffe, with map of Radcliffe.

At the time of Edwin's birth, his father, James Butterworth was postmaster of Oldham, residing at what is now No. 50, Manchester Street in that town, where his son was born on October 1st, 1812. The record of his baptism in the registers of Oldham Church is as follows: "1812. Oct. 22 Edwin son of James Butterworth, Postmaster, by Hannah his wife." Edwin Butterworth would no doubt receive his education at the competent hands of his father, who, after he had relinquished the office of postmaster, with which he combined the trade of bookseller and stationer, became a schoolmaster, being so described in the Directory published in 1818.

The lad acquired his taste for historical research from his father, and one of the first efforts of his pen in this direction was probably his *Chronology of Events*, written when he was under seventeen years of age. His first published work was brought out in 1829, with the title of *Biography of Eminent Natives, Residents, and Benefactors of the Town of Manchester* (12mo, 33 pages).

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In June, 1830, he commenced a series of note-books entitled *Register of Oldham News*, and continued them to 1842. These are now in the Oldham Free Library, except that a few volumes are missing.

When Baines issued his proposals for a history of the County Palatine of Lancaster, Butterworth introduced himself with an offer of assistance in the compilation of that work. Baines wrote in reply on January 1st, 1831, asking for a specimen history of the parish of Rochdale, for which Butterworth had collected materials, and requesting to be informed what he considered a suitable remuneration for it.

At this time Butterworth had arrived at the age of eighteen years and three months. The terms he stipulated for his literary labours, as indicated in the following letter from Edward Baines, dated Leeds, 15th January, 1831, certainly show that he did not place an extravagant estimate on their value:—

I received your communication with the charge of 17s. for the Map of Rochdale parish, a manuscript of that parish history,* and a communication for the *Leeds Mercury* of the present week. I enclose you a sovereign in a letter, post paid, thereby leaving a small balance in my favour.

I shall be glad to receive weekly communications from you for the present on the terms you mention, and I shall also be glad to receive similar information to that you have already sent to me regarding Rochdale for Oldham, Ashton-under-Lyne, Middleton, and Prestwich parishes, with one of your maps of each of those parishes. The manuscript for each parish I should be glad to have separately, in the way you have sent that for Rochdale, accompanied by your charge for each at the time it is sent. Though I shall visit each of these parishes in person and of course authenticate.

In spite of the last sentence it is my opinion that the number of parishes visited by Baines was extremely few.

In 1832 Butterworth published his *History of Oldham*,

* This MS. consisted of eighty small quarto pages.

price 1s. 6d., embellished with a map of "The Parochial Chapelry of Oldham," a 12mo volume of 62 pages. It contains an appendix of the number of steam engines in the parish, owners of same, with amount of horse power.

Arrangements for a systematic survey of the various parishes in the county, by Butterworth, do not appear to have been made by Baines until April, 1833, when he met the former by appointment on two occasions at Manchester.

On the first occasion Baines does not seem to have been satisfied with the dress in which his correspondent appeared, for in his next letter (16th April, 1833) he says: "As I am anxious that in your literary pursuits you should have a respectable appearance, I shall be glad to see you dressed in the way that you mean to appear when you are engaged in that duty." Butterworth speedily got to work, and sent the following report on the 27th of the same month:—

At last, after considerable trouble, pain, and perambulation, I have completed my inquiries in Bury parish, and a most tedious and perplexing matter it has been. To go over a parish ten miles in length and five in breadth, to call on persons sometimes denominated (but too often erroneously) intelligent men, and to procure the steam power requires great care and patience.

In returning answers to the printed questions you gave me, I have been obliged, by writing on one side of the paper only, to be content with referring you to the printed questions by the same figures and sometimes to write in perhaps too small a hand.

Inclosed I send you the rules of the Bury Grammar School, for which I have paid one shilling.

My charge for Bury parish is £1. 10s., and with all due deference to you I must be permitted to say that if you were aware of all the journeys I have taken, of their circuitous route, and of all their minor incidents, you would think the charge most reasonable.

If you would have the kindness to order Messrs. Taylor & Garnett, of the *Guardian* Office, Manchester, to pay me for each parish after I have sent it, and for Bury next Tuesday or Wednesday, you would greatly oblige.

Baines, writing on 29th April, 1833, asks Butterworth to find answers to a number of questions about the devolution of the manor of Middleton and the succession of the rectors of the same town; and on the 6th May a fresh series of questions about Radcliffe and Bury, with a request for a description of the painted glass in Radcliffe Church, as well as of the figured gravestones in the chancel.

The Bolton notes were acknowledged by Baines on May 16th, and he says: "I do not think your charge of £2. 10s. (which sum I enclose) too high, considering the extent of the parish, though it is rather more than I can afford to pay." On June 4th he sends £2 for the surveys of the parishes of Dean and Flixton. For Blackburn parish he forwarded £3 on July 20th. A like sum is paid for the parochial chapel of Colne and the borough of Clitheroe. "You must really," he adds, "put me to as little expense as you can in this way, as I find the cost swelling beyond my calculations, at the same time literally full and accurate information is indispensable."

The succeeding draft letter and notes (dated from Busk, Oldham, October 4th, 1833) are quoted on account of the further details they contain concerning Butterworth's perambulations:—

In acknowledging the receipt of your packet of September 17th, containing £3 (in payment for my MS. topographies of Clitheroe and Colne) and a letter consisting of questions, &c., I herewith send you four MS. books comprising my descriptions of the chapelries of Newchurch in Pendle Forest, Padiham, Altham, and Church, the last place I have to sketch in Whalley parish, except Bowland and Seagram, an insulated township in Bowland. While fully conscious of your kindness, I must be permitted to say that my charges are not as unreasonable as I am sorry to observe you think them. However, I shall be as moderate as I can possibly (be) in my bills, and strive to supply you with as much information as I can collect. . . .

You will perceive that I am unable to supply the total number of acres, in some districts I can procure it, in others not. Persons who claim to be the special intelligent men of some places do not seem to know

what a statute acre is or how it differs from the customary one; and in some instances, owing to the difficulty of meeting with the overseers, &c., at home, it is impossible to get this information. You are anxious I should put you to as little expense as possible. This I do to the best of my skill, but, really, I cannot afford to travel from twenty to thirty miles and more without being obliged to spend a great part of what I get in expenses. I retrench, economise, and save all in my power, and am anxious, too, to secure all the information. The expenses of lodging, travelling, food, clothing, and writing is great, and I trust that you, knowing such must be the case, will not thereby think my charges hard. For the inclosed matter my bill is £2. 10s., a very low demand. By sending this sum early you will oblige,

Yours,
E. BUTTERWORTH.

In answer to this long epistle I received a small pacquet from Mr. Baines on Saturday, October 12th, just a week after I had sent my last parcel, containing £2. 10s., the amount of my charge, for describing Newchurch in Pendle Forest, Padiham, Altham, and Church, a number of questions, and a statement saying I misunderstood him when I supposed he considered my charges unreasonable; on the contrary, he thought them moderate, but they were more than he had provided for in his estimate with the publishers. . . .

The following is an extract from his diary:—

On Tuesday, October 22nd, I set out for Ribchester. Arrived at Blackburn by coach on Tuesday night—slept at the Legs of Man—it was a fine frosty night. On Wednesday, October 23rd, I wended my way to Ribchester, an ancient city of the Romans—called of Mr. Allen at Lovely Hall, in Salesbury, and procured much curious antiquarian information respecting Roman Ribchester—coins found at Blackburn, Whalley, Billington, &c. The rest of the day being wet it was unpleasant. After crossing the broad and noble Ribble, I reached Ribchester, now a straggling poor village in a delightfully romantic vale. I spent the afternoon in obtaining information respecting the antiquities, visited the church and the singular chapel of Stid, took a drawing of a Roman altar, &c., lodged at the Red Lion. On Thursday, October 24th, I saw and conversed with the Vicar of Ribchester about some Roman coins and the parish generally; I then crossed the lofty ridge of Longridge Fell, passed Thornley Hall, reached Chipping, procured an account of the church and parish from the incumbent, and lodged there. On Friday, October 25th, I saw the wild hilly region of Bowlands, passed Chaigley, visited Stonyhurst—a noble, splendid Catholic college—descended through the picturesque valley of the Hodder, inspected Mitton Church, lodged at Whalley. On Saturday, October 26th, I arrived at home.

These activities did not absorb the whole of Butterworth's energy at this time, for in 1833 (June) he

to sow disputes about Lady Hewley's charity — I denied having any such
designs, I disclaimed any knowledge of such disputes. I repelled the
insinuations I vociferated innocence & at last the burning zeal
was appeased, when I gave him my address — Quitting Ashton
I pursued my way to Lowton over Golborn Heath where
there was another clan of gipsies squatted, & being afraid
of missing the next train of steam coaches to Manchester
I stayed but little at Lowton — the Curate the Rev. John
Pennington described to me the old families halls chapels
charities trade &c. of Lowton & Kenyon, which skirt the
Liverpool & Manchester Railway — After getting the date
of the Methodist chapel at Lowton I hurried on to where
the Kenyon Leigh & Bolton joins the Liverpool & Manchester
Railroad — After waiting a little at the Station house along
with other anxious passengers I mounted the train
for Manchester & was speedily borne along with astounding
quickness — a droll half-drunken shoemaker was cracking
jokes very fast in one boot, while two females near him
strangers to steam travelling were starting at every minor
jolt of the long flying train — On reaching Manchester the
passengers alighted & then all is alacrity & business & greeting
& preparation — Calling in at the Chronicle office I met with
Mr. James Wheeler & he promised to review the 2d edition
of the Chronological History of Manchester which he did. —
I reached Oldham by a none tiring slow dirty two horse
coach — The remainder of the week being a pastime I did
not commence writing out my notes anew until Monday
May 26 — I completed them Tuesday June 8, & that day
despatched my topographies of Leigh & Winwick Parishes to
Mr. Baines, with a letter stating my charge 2£ 10s/ & desiring
an early remittance, explaining the receipt of 12 quarto books
& that there are 14 Parishes exclusive of Liverpool & 2 parochial
places w. Dexby — if for certain P. I wished for their names — if not I wanted
4 books more — I stated that I would write to Clitheroe &
Burnley, & sent additional notes about Rectors of Standish &
Middleton, Peel Chapel Little Hulton, St. Ann's Tottington, Barton's
of Hoole, & Thos. Leigh Rector of Hoole —
On Thursday June 12 in my absence a parcel was left with
my mother containing 4 books dated Leeds June 10, & a
letter from Mr. Baines dated London June 7 inclosing 2£ 10/
in payment for my notes on Leigh & Winwick, & mentioning
the 4to books as preferable to the 8vo. ones & to be used generally —
On Monday morning June 23 I departed by the Manch. & Liverpool
Railway as far as Burton Wood where I commenced my survey
of Warrington Parish — It is a rural quiet place with an episco-
-pal chapel & school two old halls Bewsey & Bradley a
massive but ruinous gateway at the latter, & a wood thickly
stocked with rabbits — The chapel clerk was very obliging in
describing the distinct to me — Returning from Burton Wood
Chapel I passed Bradley Hall & took a sketch of the gateway
Encrossing the valley of the Sankey a little to the E. I was
forcibly struck with the grandeur of that noble bridge conveying
the Manchester & Liverpool Railway over the Sankey Canal
& River — I descended to Warrington along the Warrington
& Newton Railway in a train of locomotive engines

FACSIMILE OF BUTTERWORTH'S MANUSCRIPT.

published *A Chronological History of Manchester.* A second edition of this was brought out in 1834.

Butterworth has left notes of his income and expenses for about a week in August and September, 1834. He received "from various newspaper offices in Manchester for furnishing Oldham news, £1. 6s.; from Mr. Baines for my notes on Preston parish and Warrington Church, £2; from my brother James for newspapers, 4s.; school wages per my father, 4s." His expenditure included "rent for house, 4s.; school, 3s.; forms, &c., 1s.; ticket for temperance feast, 6d.; books at Manchester, 8d.; a new hat for me, 6s.; coals, 11d.; book for Wigan parish, 5d.; Lancashire population table rolled on cloth, 6d.; household expenses for the week (by his mother), 10s.; penny magazine, 1d." The expenses attending his journey to and from Wigan, and while staying at that town for four days in September, 1834, came to 18s. 3d. He charged £2. 10s. for the large body of materials concerning the borough and parish of Wigan, "a region stored with historic objects."

He was occupied with Lancaster from September 7th to 29th, 1835, and on the last-named date he wrote: "My charge for the enclosed four books concerning the antiquities, castle, church, borough, and twenty townships of the parish of Lancaster is £4. 10s. You may perhaps think me extravagant in my charge for this parish, but I can assure you the time and expense attendant on visiting it has far exceeded that of any of my previous journeys; the distance is one cause, but the detached situation of the various portions of the parish has been a great obstacle, exclusive of the expenses, which are necessarily heavy."

Butterworth's final notes on his work for the *History of Lancashire* consist of an itinerary in north Lancashire and

home again, and a report dated November 10th, 1835, accompanying the result of his inquiries in three of the most northerly parishes, namely, Hawkshead, Coulton, and Cartmel.

In the course of the following year Butterworth was desirous of obtaining an appointment as a registrar of births, deaths, and marriages, and enlisted the help of Baines, who, in a letter dated October 9th, 1836, mentions that he had written to the Registrar-General on his behalf, praising him highly for the work he had accomplished on the *History of Lancashire.* The application was apparently unsuccessful.

In his letter of thanks, Butterworth says: "The labours were arduous yet encouraging, often difficult yet always delightful, congenial to the taste and instructive to the mind. My earnest wishes and unceasing endeavours have been directed to plainness of statement and correctness of assertion, and from the extremely pleasing manner in which you speak of my efforts with a desire to bestow a kindness of considerable individual importance, I venture to hope I have been successful in attaining to usefulness, humble yet meritorious."

An inspection of the Preston Library manuscripts shows how small a share Baines himself had in the labour of compiling the standard history of the county, and a consideration of the letters quoted in this paper enforces one to the conclusion that the work ought properly to be called "Butterworth's *History of Lancashire,* edited by Baines."

In the Whitehead collection in the Oldham Library there is a copy of his Oldham Almanack for 1838. It is the only one I have seen.

In 1839 he published *An Account of the Public Charities of the Parochial Chapel of Oldham, compiled from the Par-*

liamentary Reports on Charities, and from local information as to their present state. To the same date belongs a pamphlet entitled *An Historical Sketch of the Manchester and Leeds Railway, as far as completed, with descriptive notes of the most remarkable objects near the Line.* This was dedicated to Edward Baines, M.P., and contains a very interesting account of the system of railway tickets then in use, the invention of Mr. Edmondson, clerk at the Manchester station.

In the following year (1840) he brought out his *Historical Notices of the Town and Parish of Middleton;* also *An Historical Description of the Town of Heywood and Vicinity,* a little volume that has become very scarce.

His *Statistical Sketch of the County Palatine of Lancaster,* a valuable local gazetteer, is dated 1841. He took a copy of it to Joseph Aston, the veteran Lancashire author and publisher, who then resided at Chadderton Hall. Mrs. Aston's letter, expressive of her husband's thanks and warm appreciation, is among the papers in the Oldham Library.

Butterworth was one of the founders of the Oldham Lyceum, and took an active share in its management and wrote all the early reports. His co-founders wished him to take the honorary secretaryship, but he declined the office through lack of leisure for the work. In August, 1841, he made a successful appeal to Lord Clarendon, as Chancellor of the Duchy, for a share of the Saxon coins found at Cuerdale to be placed in the Lyceum.

In 1842 appeared his *Historical Account of the Towns of Ashton-under-Lyne, Stalybridge, and Dukinfield,* and in 1845 he wrote the "Descriptive History" to accompany A. F. Tait's *Views on the Manchester and Leeds Railway.* In 1845, also, he commenced to publish *A Concise History of Lancashire,* but unfortunately only

four parts, or 126 pages, came out. The arrangement is alphabetical in order of names of places, and it is an admirable compilation. In the Oldham Free Library is preserved No. 1, and the only copy known, of *The Oldham Miscellany and Middleton and Heywood Mirror*, which Butterworth published on January 1st, 1845. His last literary venture was a work he called *Historical Sketches of Oldham*, which he thought would occupy eight or ten parts. Only four one shilling parts, however, were published in 1847, when the author's health broke down.

He died on 19th April, 1848, aged thirty-five years. His funeral took place on April 23rd in Oldham parish churchyard.

Butterworth's friends met together soon after the funeral with the object of preserving his library from dispersal, and ultimately Mr. James Platt purchased the collection for £130, and lodged it in the Lyceum, the money being placed in the hands of three trustees, for the benefit of Hiram Butterworth, Edwin's brother. The purchase was made through the medium of the late Rev. R. M. Davies. After the opening of the Oldham Free Library the remains of the collection were transferred to that institution.

Since Butterworth's death, revised editions have appeared (in 1856) of his *Historical Sketches of Oldham* (edited, I believe, by John Parker, who at one time was sergeant in the Oldham police force) and of his *Public Charities of Oldham.*

In 1859 it was proposed to raise a memorial to Edwin Butterworth. This was ultimately accomplished, and it was erected in Greenacres Cemetery.

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—— What is writ, is writ;
Would it were worthier!

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See also memoir by W. E. A. Axon in the *Dictionary of National Biography* and communications in the *Manchester City News* "Notes and Queries," vol. iv., 1882: Page 311, by "Philander;" page 316, by John Holt; page 320, by Henry Gray; page 322, L. S., Heywood; page 332, by "Philander;" page 348, by S. O. Ward.

THE ANCIENT CROSSES OF LANCASHIRE.

BY HENRY TAYLOR, F.S.A.

THE HUNDRED OF SALFORD.

THE geographical position of this hundred, like that of Blackburn, has affected its history in many material respects. So much of the area being moorland, and so little of it consequently good for agricultural purposes, we do not find such numerous traces here of the Scandinavian invaders as in the case of the four remaining hundreds—Lonsdale, Amounderness, Leyland, and West Derby—all of which, having a coast line, afforded excellent harbourage for these Norsemen, who were tempted to stop by the rich alluvial soil which they found for some miles inland from the sea-shore. The desolate nature of this part of the county in early times is furthermore indicated by the fact that in the Domesday Survey only four names in this hundred occur—Salford (Salford), Mamcestre (Manchester), Radeclive (Radcliffe), Recedham (Rochdale).

The Salford hundred measures about twenty-five miles from east to west and twenty-three from north to south. On the south the river Mersey divides it from the county of Chester; the hundred of Blackburn joins it on the

north, and on the west a tortuous line—following the course of various streams and brooks—cuts it off from the hundreds of Leyland and West Derby. On the east is the county of York and a corner of Cheshire. The whole of this eastern portion consists of wild moorland country, part of it, as at Blackstone Edge, rising to a height of one thousand five hundred feet above the sea-level, and forming some of the westerly spurs of the great Pennine range, which in many respects creates a thorough barrier between Lancashire and Yorkshire.

One of the effects of this separation is to be seen in the fact that whilst South Lancashire and North Cheshire frequently unite in enterprises—as in the Historic Society of Lancashire and Cheshire and in the Lancashire and Cheshire Antiquarian Society—no such alliance between Lancashire and Yorkshire is in existence, for the great plain of York can only be reached from that of Lancashire by a tortuous course through long valleys and tunnels.

The whole of the hundred is drained into the Mersey, a river which takes that name at Stockport, where the Tame and the Goyt* unite. The Irwell, flowing into the Mersey near the south-west corner of the hundred, has numerous tributaries—the Croal, the Tonge, the Roch, the Irk, the Medlock, and others. These streams, in fact, cover nearly the whole area of this division of the county, converging from the north, the east, and the west upon Manchester, from which point the Irwell flows in a widened stream till its junction with the more important river at Irlam. In dealing with the geographical features

* A long controversy has raged over this river junction as regards the correct name of the stream which, after passing Goyt Hall, here joins the Tame. The confusion has arisen from the fact that the Etherow, which joins the Goyt near Marple, two miles west of Goyt Hall, was called by some of the older geographers "Mersey fl."

of the county, we should bear in mind that the numerous canals which traverse it have altered the course of some of the rivers and absorbed many tributaries. The ancient parks, of which there are about eighteen in number, are mainly in the southern half of the hundred.

Pre-Reformation Churches and Chapels.

Pre-Reformation Churches.—S. Michael, Ashton-under-Lyne; S. Mary, Prestwich-cum-Oldham; S. Leonard, Middleton; S. Chad, Rochdale; S. Mary, Bury; S. Bartholomew, Radcliffe; S. Mary, Deane; S. Peter, Bolton-le-Moors; S. Mary, Eccles; and S. Michael, Flixton. The old parish church of Manchester was collegiated in 1422. In 1547 the college was dissolved with other religious houses. In 1578 Queen Elizabeth granted a new charter of foundation, consisting of warden, fellows, chaplains, and choristers, the dedication being then changed from the College of the Blessed Virgin to Christ's College. This arrangement continued—with modifications—until the year 1847, when the old parish church became the cathedral of the new Manchester diocese. A pre-Norman church preceded the post-Norman parish church.

Pre-Reformation Chapels.—In the parish of Manchester: S. Peter, Blackley; S. Clement, Chorlton-cum-Hardy; S. James, Birch-in-Rusholme; S. James (now S. Lawrence), Denton; S. James, Didsbury; S. James, Gorton; S. Matthew, Stretford; All Saints, Newton. Elsewhere in the Salford hundred, chapels had been built before or shortly after the year 1550, as follows: S. Mary, Oldham; Holy Trinity, Shaw [in Crompton]; S. Bartholomew, Whitworth; Holy Trinity, Horwich; S. Bartholomew;

Westhoughton; S. Bartholomew, Turton; S. Catherine, Blackrod; Holy Trinity, Littleborough; Bradshaw; Little Lever; Rivington; Milnrow; and Ellenbrook. Some ambiguity exists as to the actual date of foundation of several of the chapels in the preceding list.

On this subject, in connection with the large parish of Manchester, Mr. H. T. Crofton* writes: "Inasmuch as the aged and infirm parishioners would have been unable to traverse such great distances to and from the parish church, it is highly probable that that church or the chief lords of the manors within the parish provided at very early dates oratories for the convenience of themselves and their tenantry, and thus in course of time chapelries with undefined districts became established."

"By 1573† these chapelries were seven: (1) Blackley (including Crumpsall, Harpurhey, part of Cheetham, and part of Moston); (2) Newton (including part of Moston, Failsworth, Bradford, and Droylsden); (3) Gorton (including Openshaw and Kirkmanshulme); (4) Denton (including Haughton and Reddish); (5) Didsbury (including Moss Side, Rusholme, Burnage, Withington, Levenshulme, and Heaton Norris); (6) Chorlton; (7) Stretford. An eighth chapel, that of Birch-in-Rusholme, was erected after 1579, and in 1598 was described as 'latelie erected.'‡ In 1352 Didsbury chapelyard was dedicated for burial purposes. . . . There was a clericus of Stretford in 1326, and a chapel of Stretford in 1413, both probably provided by the Traffords. In 1400 a licence was granted to Sir John Byron to have an oratory for one year in his manors of Clayton and Butterworth. In 1411 the same licence was renewed and extended to all

* *History of Newton Chapelry*, Chetham Society, vol. 52, n.s.
† Booker's *Blackley*, p. 81. ‡ Booker's *Birch*, p. 137.

his manors in Lancashire. The private chapel at Clayton Hall would be probably resorted to by the inhabitants of Newton, Droylsden, Failsworth, &c. There was a chapel in Blackley in 1548; it, too, was a private oratory of the Byron family, who held the village from the Lord de la Warre, and it was probably erected under the 1411 licence."

MONASTIC INSTITUTIONS.—The geographical conditions of this hundred were not such as would please any of the great monastic orders, who shortly after the Norman Conquest crossed the silver streak in search of sites on which to found abbeys and priories. As we have already seen, these institutions in Lancashire were almost all on the western side of the county, the monks avoiding the wild inhospitable moors of the Pennine range. We thus have only two monastic institutions in this hundred—Kersal Cell and the Manchester Collegiate Church—the latter of so late a foundation as the year 1422.

HOLY WELLS.—The records of the existence of holy wells in this hundred are scanty in the extreme. The most celebrated was undoubtedly the Lady Pirle or Pearle, Well in Salford. The ordnance maps show the position of one at Halliwell, near Bolton-le-Moors; of Lady's Well, Eccles; and I have notes of another at Cadishead. Owing, however, to the sparse population and to the absence of monasteries, it is probable that a sacred character was scarcely ever attributed to wells in this part of the county. We may, moreover, with some reason conclude that the few which possibly existed in mediæval times were swept away during the Reformation epoch, for, as Dr. Halley points out, the Salford hundred

became a stronghold of Puritanism, Bolton, indeed, being called the Geneva of Lancashire. The demolition of other wells may be accounted for by the vast increase in the size of the towns during the last hundred and fifty years.

In glancing at a map of Roman Lancashire, the eye is at once arrested by the numerous roads radiating like a spider's web from Mancunium, and we are, therefore, naturally led to speculate upon the reasons which induced the Roman conquerors to choose Manchester as such an important centre. A primary reason was undoubtedly that the aboriginal tribes in this part of England were of a turbulent and troublesome disposition, and it was necessary to plant a strong force in their midst. In the second place, the great Roman stations at York and Chester (reached respectively from London by Watling Street and Ermine Street) were so far apart that it was important to have a powerful camp midway between them.

Of the various Roman roads which thus radiated from Manchester one of the most important crossed the Mersey at Stockport, and passed on in a south-easterly direction into Cheshire. A second left Manchester to the south-west, and, passing through Stretford, crossed the same river near Ashton-on-Mersey to Northwich and beyond. A third road left the principal Roman camp in a north-westerly by westerly direction, passing a little to the north of Eccles and through Atherton to Wigan, where it joined the Roman road running nearly due north through Warrington and Preston. A fourth proceeded nearly due north-west to Ribchester and on to Lancaster, crossing the Irwell at Radcliffe. A fifth road, whose course is somewhat problematical,

passed near Rochdale over Blackstone Edge and on into Yorkshire. A sixth road led south of Oldham to Castle Shawe, near Saddleworth, and beyond. Another hypothetical road is shown on Mr. Harrison's archæological map, diverging from the Roman road between Manchester and Wigan at Pendlebury, its destination being Blackrod.

Considerable light has been thrown on the Roman occupation of Manchester by Mr. C. Roeder, in a paper printed in vol. xvii. of the *Transactions of the Lancashire and Cheshire Antiquarian Society*, 1899, accompanied by excellent maps and other illustrations. His view, supported by discoveries made in recent years, is that the Romans dislodged the British from their camp on the rocky cliff at Hunt's Bank, and established themselves there for a time; subsequently that they formed a larger camp for themselves in the well-known position at Castlefield, at the other river junction site—that of the Medlock with the Irwell. These camps were, of course, connected by a road, following approximately the course of the present Deansgate.

Mr. Roeder thinks that the road to Wigan left Castlefield to the south-west, crossing the Irwell at Woden's Ford; that to Castle Shawe in a north-easterly direction through Ancoats; that to Ribchester from Castlefield, through Hunt's Bank to the north, along the course of the present Great Ducie Street, crossing the Irk at the spot where there is now a buried mediæval bridge near Victoria Station.

In the hundred of Lonsdale I have fortunately been able to trace the monumental and, to some extent, architectural history of that district during the greater part of the thousand years from the departure of the Romans to

the Reformation epoch and for a century or two subsequently. The sculptures and inscriptions on the ancient crosses at Lancaster, Heysham, Halton, and Hornby carry us back to a period two or three centuries before the Norman Conquest, and other crosses and carved stones again take us by degrees to a much later period. In the Salford hundred, however, the circumstances are different. In Manchester itself no actual cross of early date has come down to us, but there is the well-known sculptured and inscribed stone, now, after various vicissitudes, preserved in the Cathedral Library. The stone probably dates from the eighth century or before, and may have formed a portion of the door head of the pre-Norman church within the baron's yard. The sculpture—an angel holding a scroll—is certainly of an archaic character, and bears a striking resemblance to that over the chancel arch in the pre-Norman church at Bradford-on-Avon. An interesting paper on this stone (to which I must refer my readers) was read by Mr. Phelps before the Lancashire and Cheshire Antiquarian Society on 13th January, 1905. The writing has been deciphered by Canon Hicks and Rev. H. A. Hudson as "In manus Tuas Domine commendo (meum) spiritum."

The chief authority on the ancient crosses of Manchester and Salford is Mr. G. H. Rowbotham, who has traced and recorded much that is so far known as to their history in the *Transactions of the Lancashire and Cheshire Antiquarian Society*. His principal references are to the *Court Leet Records*, and he enumerates the following crosses as having been at one time in existence in Manchester and Salford: the Manchester Market Cross, the Salford Proclamation Cross, Barlow Cross, Hyde Cross, and New Cross; and, as the following pages show,

PRE-NORMAN SCULPTURED STONE.

FROM THE MANCHESTER CATHEDRAL.

there were probably others. It is possible that some of these structures were of a very early date.

Outside Manchester, in this hundred, is a portion of a pre-Norman cross found on the banks of the Irwell near Eccles; a pre-Norman cross and other early sculptures at Bolton-le-Moors; and market crosses at Bolton-le-Moors, Rochdale, Ashton-under-Lyne, Bury, Oldham, Eccles, Stretford, and probably in some other towns.

The documentary evidence as to the early history of this division of the county is scanty. From the time of the departure of the Roman army, in the middle of the fifth century, we have little record of Lancashire history until about the middle of the ninth century, when the *Anglo-Saxon Chronicle* records the invasion of the Old Saxons, the Angles, and the Jutes, and that these foreign invaders took possession of Mercia and Northumbria. It has been assumed, with much probability, that early in the seventh century Manchester was conquered, and that the lord* or thane built his hall and church on the site of the college, at the junction of the rivers Irk and Irwell. Fortunately some definite information about Manchester in the tenth century is contained in the *Anglo-Saxon Chronicle:* "A.D. 923. In this year, after harvest, King Edward went with his forces to Thelwall, and commanded the town to be built and occupied and manned; and commanded another force also of Mercians, the while that he sat there, to take possession of Manchester in North-humbria, and repair and man it."

*Mr. Henry Bradley tells us (*Making of English*): "The history of the word *lord* is, on the whole, closely parallel to that of *ghost*. It is a contracted pronunciation of the old English 'hlāfweard' or 'hlāford,' which literally translated is bread-keeper.' The word originally meant the head of a household in relation to the servants and dependants, who were called his 'bread-eaters.'"

Again, there is a brief reference in Domesday, quoted below by Professor Tait.

Subsequently to the warlike times (when the value of Manchester was mainly that it had a strongly defensive site, and was thus useful for military purposes) the town might never have risen again into importance had it not been that its proximity to the spurs of the Pennine range, which group themselves in a sort of amphitheatre on the north, east, and south-east, made it a convenient market town or great meeting place for the manufacturer who, from the thirteenth century, settled in the moorland towns of Blackburn, Burnley, Colne, Bacup, Todmorden, Rochdale, Oldham, and Ashton, where coal was accessible and where water came down in useful streams from the hills of this Pennine range. A modern railway map, showing the iron roads between Manchester and these manufacturing towns, has, indeed, a singular resemblance to the map in Watkin's *Lancashire* of the Roman roads which once radiated in so many directions from this city.

For the later centuries, however, information is more ample, and the excellent work on mediæval Lancashire,* by Professor Tait, of Manchester University, sums up clearly much of the knowledge at present available, and corrects many errors in the works of previous historians.

I may note here in passing that Mr. Tait's investigations fully support the conclusions generally arrived at by local antiquaries, that in pre-Norman times the natural stronghold at the junction of the Irk with the Irwell was utilised by early settlers, and that here, within the encircling line of Hanging Ditch, the lord built his house and church, the church, as in so many other similar

* *Mediæval Manchester and the Beginnings of Lancashire.* By James Tait, M.A., Professor of Ancient and Mediæval History. Manchester: At the University Press, 1904.

instances, being again and again rebuilt and altered as the centuries passed on. The author thus endeavours to solve the difficulties which have attached to the supposed church of S. Michael, in Manchester, arising out of the reference in Domesday. He says: "The direct reference to Manchester runs thus—'The church of St. Mary and the church of St. Michael hold in Manchester one ploughland free from all burdens save Danegeld.' The church of St. Mary was undoubtedly the Saxon predecessor of the Cathedral. But what of St. Michael's?" Mr. Tait's explanation is that hitherto antiquaries have assumed that there was a second church in Manchester, situated at or near Alport, at the end of Deansgate. But evidence is entirely wanting to support this theory. He points out that in feudal terminology Manchester covered a good deal more than the township, and that at a date not very remote from Domesday. "The manor or lordship of Manchester was divided between two parishes. In the thirteenth century the bulk of it lay in the vast parish of Manchester, but the sub-manor of Ashton-under-Lyne formed a small parish by itself, and Ashton Church was and still is dedicated to St. Michael. As its advowson belonged to the lords of Manchester, it was probably a daughter church of St. Mary's. It is not impossible, indeed, that St. Mary's was the original mother church of the whole hundred, for Salford, the royal manor which formed the centre of the hundred, was in the parish of Manchester. . . . Lancashire parishes were proverbially large, and that of Manchester was no exception to the rule. It contained about sixty square miles, being bounded on the south by the river Mersey from Stockport to the confines of Urmston, on the west by the parishes of Flixton and Eccles, on the north by that of Prestwich-cum-Oldham, and on the east by Ashton parish and the river Tame."

MANCHESTER AND SALFORD.

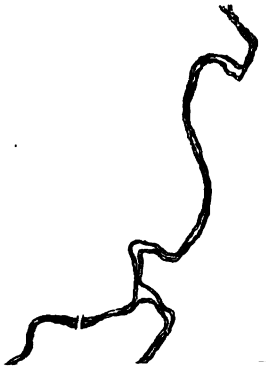
No very early maps of Manchester and Salford are known to be in existence. The survey which Dr. Dee instructed Saxton, the great map maker, to prepare in Queen Elizabeth's reign, was either never finished or has been lost.* That, however, begun by Green in the year 1787 and completed in 1794, and republished by Messrs. Falkner, of Manchester, in 1902, contains a sufficient record of old streets to enable us to realise what the chief features of the town must have been at an early period. The nucleus of old Manchester, as already stated, is the natural stronghold at the junction of the Irk with the Irwell, a rock forty feet above the river, and made secure from attack on the south and east by the artificial defence of Hanging Ditch. This enclosure measures about three hundred yards from north to south and two hundred and fifty yards from east to west. From it various old streets radiated—Deansgate to the south, Withy Grove and Shudehill to the east, and Long Millgate to the north.

The way out of old Manchester for vehicles going north would be by Long Millgate, over the Irk, along Red Bank, and by Stocks on to Cheetham Hill. The Bury New Road was not made, for Green's map shows, almost on the site of it, a kind of bridle-path called "From Kersal Moor and Broughton Foot Road."

Salford, in early times, was entirely cut off from Manchester by the river Irwell. The ford was a few yards to the south of the bridge, which is known to have been in

* "The diary of Dr. John Dee, warden of Manchester College, was published in 1842 by the Camden Society, and contains the following items: '1596, July 10, Manchester town described and measured by Mr. Christopher Saxton. July 14, Mr. Saxton rode away.'"—*History of Newton Chapelry*, Chetham Society, vol. 53, n.s. The diary, so far as it relates to Manchester, was re-edited by J. E. Bailey in *Local Gleanings*, new series.

Stocks



existence in the time of Edward III. The bridge crossed the river as a continuation of Hanging Ditch, and, like many other bridges erected during the mediæval period, had a chapel on it. A sketch by Barritt is in existence, showing the appearance of the ford a century ago.

Crossing this bridge from Manchester, we come almost immediately to a street named Greengate. This was the gate or road to the village green of Salford, which may have been of large dimensions, and there can be little doubt that at a very early period a village cross was planted in its midst. As the population increased the green was reduced in size, and by the year 1650 had been formed into a rectangular space, eighty yards long and thirty-five yards wide. By the year 1787 Greengate had been formed into a fairly wide street; originally it was probably only a narrow lane. In the same year, when William Green made his survey, this wide street ended at the market place. To the west of the square it proceeded as a narrow lane for a short distance, and then became a bridle-path between hedges leading in a north-westerly direction to a ford over the Irwell, called on Green's map "Salford Ford." Beyond, it joined the great north road to Ribchester.*

The words "Salford Ford" are significant, for here, in all probability, grew at a remote period in English history the sallows (or willows) which first gave a name to the village and subsequently to the hundred.† It is in low-

* Mr. George Esdaile informs us (*Lancashire and Cheshire Antiquarian Society*, vol. x., p. 251) that an ancient paved way (? Roman) has been found on the line of Greengate at a considerable depth.

† "However this may be, it seems clear that we have to recognise in the early polity of the English in Britain a marked tendency towards the arrangement of society on the tribal system. The households and the mœgths are the groups with which it reckons in dividing the land and in apportioning rights and duties. It may be pointed out ultimately that the political organisation of the territory started from the smallest of

lying districts like that of Lower Broughton, near the "Salford Ford," that the sallow flourishes. It is easy to imagine a thick patch of these trees, a thousand and more years ago, at this spot, refreshed by the floods which once gave so much trouble to the authorities.

The borough of Salford is practically within a great loop of the river Irwell, measuring roughly three-quarters of a mile from north to south and one mile from east to west. The easterly half of it is, as we have seen, flat and low lying, but the ground rises towards White Cross Bank, so that at that point there is a precipitous descent to the river. In Green's time houses lined both sides of Greengate and of Chapel Street. In other parts he shows buildings in isolated positions, and the rest was meadow land.

There were other fords, however, over the Irwell, one of these being a fifth of a mile north of White Cross Bank. Broughton Ford was one mile north of the same

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these units—the household. This organisation had to provide for three main functions of political life—for the gathering of the host, for the collection of tribute, and for the administration of justice; and to meet these three main requirements the hundreds arose all over the country. Even where, as in the Danish shires, wapentakes and wards took their place, the original English division must have been one into hundreds, and the significant wapentake itself points to a more recent form of the gathering of the armed people of the district.

"Now, recent researches into the grouping of hundreds and hides leave no doubt as to the fact that the district called a hundred was considered as a group of a hundred households, a hundred *hiwises*, as I should prefer to say, in order to escape the double or triple meaning of the word 'hide.' As a matter of fact, these calculations supposed a good deal of rough reckoning, rounding off, exempting, and overburdening of the actual areas; but the main idea runs through the whole of Old English history, and the frequent remanipulation of the map of the hundreds shows that the aim was not merely to provide a fiscal fiction without relation to reality."—*The Growth of the Manor*, by Dr. P. Vinogradoff, M.A., Hon. D.C.L., Corpus Professor of Jurisprudence in the University of Oxford, late Professor of History in the University of Moscow. London, 1905, pp. 144, 145.

place. By it the inhabitants of Pendleton would get across by Ford Lane to Higher Broughton and beyond. By Woden's Ford persons crossed the river at a spot near Hulme Hall, one-eighth of a mile south of the junction of the Medlock with the Irwell.

In a previous chapter instances are given of the name Salford occurring elsewhere in the county in low-lying districts, as in Blackburn, Burnley, and Clitheroe, close to rivers. At Todmorden there is Salford Bridge, and we have Salt Eye (where willows once abounded), near Barton-on-Irwell. In other parts of England many Salfords are to be found in exactly similar positions. A noteworthy example occurs in the ancient and low-lying town of Tonbridge on the Medway. In this case the banks of the river are abundantly lined with the sallow tree, whose roots are well watered by the often recurring floods. Here, in the main street, is a row of comparatively new houses, to which is attached a conspicuous label, "Salford Terrace," the only ostensible record of the ancient ford, all traces of which were obliterated sixty years ago when the railway station was built. The ford is shown on old maps of the town.

The late Canon Isaac Taylor writes, in *Names and their Histories:* "The fact that five shires and ten county towns take their names from fords, while Bristol is the only city whose name bears witness to the existence of a bridge, affords a curious testimony to the want of facilities for travel at the time when our local names originated. A river as large as the Severn had to be forded at Hereford and we do not find a bridge before we come to Bridgnorth. The Thames had to be forded at Wallingford, Halliford, and Oxford; the Ouse at Bedford and the Lea at Stratford. Cambridge, Bridgewater, and Redbridge cannot be reckoned among towns with

bridges, since they are corruptions of earlier names, while at Tunbridge and Weybridge the streams are small."*

The marshy ground in front of the Manchester stronghold, within a great loop of the river Irwell, formed an important part of the defences of the fort.

A good deal of valuable information about the early history of Salford and of Manchester is to be found in two volumes (46 and 48) recently published by the Chetham Society, entitled *The Portmote or Court Leet Records of the Borough or Town or Royal Manor*† *of Salford from the year 1597 to the year 1669 inclusive*, by J. G. de T. Mandley. These volumes afford additional evidence of the well known fact that from the earliest times Manchester and Salford have been separate communities under separate governments.

The editor writes: "The Portmote Records of Salford are of unusual interest. Not only is the place mentioned in Domesday book, but it is there described as one of the manors of King Edward the Confessor, and therefore the

* The same author writes: "Villages must not be regarded as coming into existence as villages, but rather as townships gradually growing up round the tún or dwelling of the first settler, whose abode either bore the owner's name or was distinguished by some local characteristic, such as position, colour, form, or frequently from some neighbouring natural object—a cliff, a brook, a wood, or frequently from the tree which shaded it. . . . Appledram, Sussex, is a corruption of *Appelder-ham*, and Salterford, Notts, D. B. Saltreford, must be the ford at the Sallow tree (A.S. *sealh*, a sallow)."

† "All periods of English history have had their bearing on the life of the manor. Some germs of manorial institutions may be found in the Celtic age; the Roman occupation of the island had undoubtedly a powerful influence on its economic arrangements; the Old English period is marked by the full development of the rural township; the feudal epoch finds the manor at its height; the dissolution of the manor forms one of the processes by which modern commercial intercourse was brought about, and survivals of the manorial system and of its component elements may still be observed all over England."—Dr. Vinogradoff's *Growth of the Manor*, preface, p. vi.

property of the Norman conqueror. How the old Saxon *tun* was governed from the time of King Edward—A.D. 1042–1066—to *circa* 1086, when King William I. asserted his ownership, or thenceforward to 1231, the year it received the charter constituting the town a free borough, can be only conjectured. . . . The impulse given to the growth and prosperity of Salford due to this charter is, however, demonstrated in the petition of the burgesses of Manchester, some seventy years later, to their lord for a similar grant. . . . Mr. Earwaker, in his Introduction to *The Court Leet Records of Manchester*, has so fully described the functions of and picturesque ceremonies incident to the ancient courts leet, that it would be idle to repeat them here. It may be necessary, however, to say that the Salford Portmote Court was something more than a manorial court leet, for it was a HUNDRED COURT, possessing a wider and superior jurisdiction. . . . Viewed in the light of these records, Salford in the seventeenth century was in population and rateable value a much smaller place than many of our present semi-rural townships. The one pump, with two officers to guard it, and the crude provisions made for the prevention and extinction of fires, would justify such conclusion. On the other hand, we have the great antiquity and the dignity of a borough with a court presided over by a titled steward, who, when he attended the town fairs or other public ceremonies, was supported by all the burgesses within the town, each bringing with him a man with a 'Byll or a Halberd.'"

Professor Tait* refers to the king's manor house at Salford as the civil centre of the district which had S. Mary's for its ecclesiastical centre. It seems, however,

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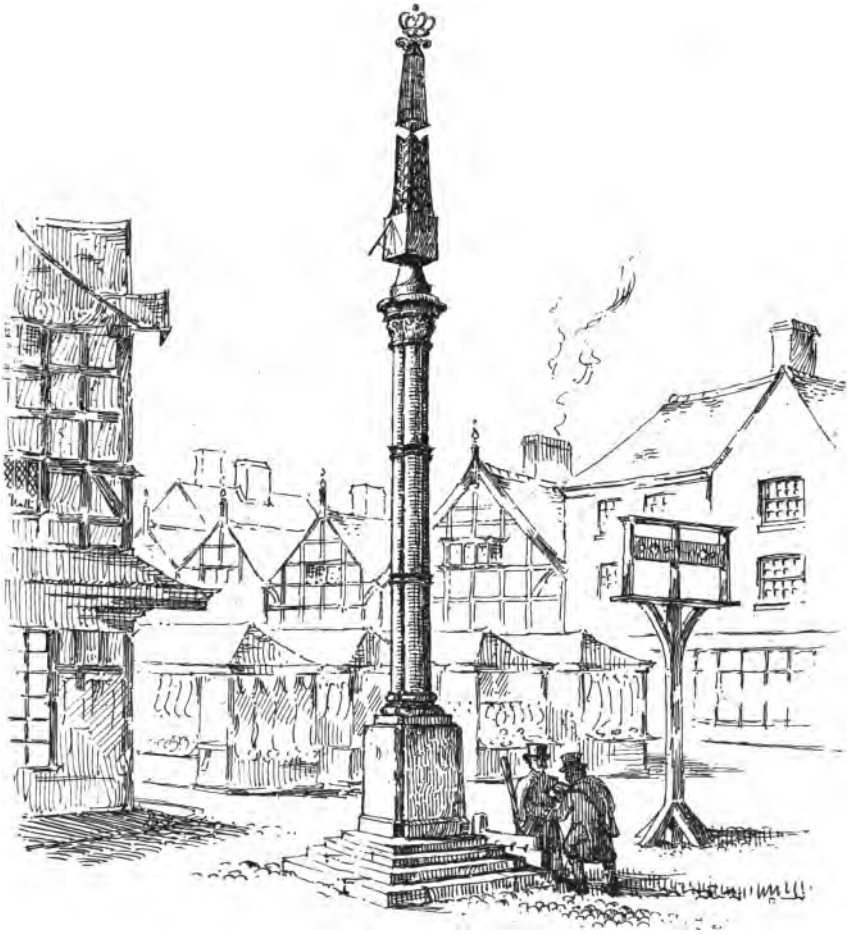
* *Mediæval Manchester*, p. 9.

improbable that a building of such importance stood on this flat marshy ground, in so indefensible a position, at such an early period. If this was the case, the interesting question arises as to who was in possession of the fort on the opposite side of the Irwell.

In the stately but prosaic streets of new Manchester, lined with palatial warehouses, one looks almost in vain for sentiment, poetry, or for anything of mythological interest. Yet occasionally something of the kind is to be found, as in the Stanley crest—the three legs of man,—on some of the very dilapidated property near the Cathedral, and in Withy Grove, where the historic inn, the Seven Stars,* an old black-and-white house, is still in existence. Another Seven Stars Inn is to be found in Oldham Street and there are many others in various Lancashire towns. In the mediæval period Manchester and Salford, like Chester at the present time, must have presented a most picturesque appearance, their irregularly formed streets being full of charming old half-timbered houses with nodding gables and bay windows of every imaginable design, but scarcely a vestige of all this beautiful work has survived.

THE MANCHESTER MARKET CROSS.—In comparing Green's map of Manchester with those of other mediæval towns, we are at once struck with the fact that the space allotted to this Lancashire market place is cramped and insignificant. The Preston market place, for instance, is one hundred and twenty-five yards long by fifty yards wide. I therefore venture to suggest that the Manchester

* The use of the seven stars as an inn sign has apparently been derived from the following classical legend: Ariadne, daughter of Minos, king of Crete, was married to Theseus, but he ungratefully deserted her. She was then wooed by Bacchus, the god of wine, and married him. He gave her a crown of seven stars, which eventually became a constellation.



The Manchester
Market Cross

market place may at an early period have occupied the whole space between Cateaton Street on the north and Market Sted Lane on the south, and all the ground between Old Millgate and Smithy Door; nevertheless, it has to be remembered, on the other hand, that up to the time of Queen Anne Manchester was a comparatively small town, and that secondary markets existed elsewhere, such as the apple market between the college and the old church and the corn market at Hyde Cross.

Another suggestion, which a study of the map would support, is that the market place was only half this size, and was thus about seventy yards square, reaching from Market Street to the old shambles. In many towns the size of a market place has been thus reduced by buildings placed in the middle of it.

Whatever may have originally been the case, the market place in Green's time was of the shape of a letter L and half of it occupied by shambles. The cross stood at the easterly end of the shambles, and was thus about eighty yards south of Hanging Ditch.

Owing to the fact that various fanciful drawings had been made of the Manchester Cross, there has been considerable uncertainty as to its exact form. Mr. G. H. Rowbotham writes:* "Joseph Parry's view of the old market place was exhibited at the Jubilee Exhibition (Old Manchester) in 1887, and has been fully and admirably described by the late Sir Thomas Baker in *Palatine Note-Book* for October, 1883. I believe we have in this wonderfully clever little picture the only authentic representation of the market place of old Manchester (with its cross, pillory, and ancient timbered houses) as it appeared just prior to the general clearance begun in

* *Transactions of the Lancashire and Cheshire Antiquarian Society*, 1897.

1815-16." The sketch which I give of the cross is based on the oil painting at Agecroft Hall, by Joseph Parry.

In the rebuilding of the old crosses there was clearly a fashion in each locality, for we notice a great similarity between the last built cross at Preston and this in Manchester, which succeeded a mediæval cross in 1680. In both cases any semblance to an actual cross had disappeared, and the structure was simply an obelisk.

In describing Manchester in the early part of the seventeenth century Procter writes: "The Market Place or Market Sted, as it was then called, with the parish church, formed the centre round which the town gathered. In the centre of the space now covered by the Cotton-waste Dealers' Exchange stood the Market Cross, and in the area in front were placed the Booths, originally formed of wood, in which the town's Portmotes or Boroughreeves' Court and the Courts Leet and Baron of the feudal lords were held, as were also subsequently the Petty and Quarter Sessions. Hard by was the Pillory* or Neck-stocks, a mode of punishment claimed as a manorial right in feudal times and used chiefly against dishonest traders—offending women being subjected to another kind of punishment, equally disagreeable and certainly not less degrading, viz., the tumbrel or cuck-stool. . . . Originally the punishment was inflicted in the pool surrounding the fortified residence of the Radcliffes, a mansion occupying the site of the present Half-moon Tavern in Chapel Walks, and from its situation, called the Pool House or Pool Fold. The Radcliffes do not appear to have greatly appreciated these exhibitions, for in the Court Leet Records there

* "The last instance of the use of the Pillory was in 1816, it is said—in which year it was abolished,—in all offences, save perjury and subornation."

are numerous complaints recorded of their having cast earth into and otherwise encroached upon the Cucking-stool Pool. . . . The scold's bridle, which had a leading chain three feet long attached to it, was used to control the energetic tongues of the female stall-keepers in the market, and is still in the possession of the Corporation, though it is long since it was called into requisition. . . . Market Street Lane was a narrow and tortuous thoroughfare, hemmed in on each side by quaint old timber houses with high peaked gables and overhanging roofs, standing in an in-and-out sort of fashion, as if with studied disregard of method or order."

Mr. G. Baldwin Brown in his book on *Saxon England** enlarges on the persistence of the traditions of the old village communities, and refers repeatedly to the cross on the village green as a rallying point for the discussion of urgent public affairs. The green usually abutted on the churchyard.

Instances of the continuity of this custom are given in John Byrom's memoirs,† in connection with the Manchester market cross, so late as the eighteenth century. "A poor woman fell into fits at the cross. I took her up; stood by her; gave her sixpence. This morning Mr. Percival at the cross spoke to me to pay me. . . . December 1st [1745]: About six o'clock the P[rince] and the foot set out, went up Market Street Lane, and over Cheadle ford; the horse was gathering together all forenoon; we went up to the cross to see them and then to Mr. Starkey's, they were all drawn up in the Square and went off in companies, Lord Elcho's horse went past Baguley."

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* *The Arts in Early England: Ecclesiastical Architecture in England, from the Conversion of the Saxons to the Norman Conquest*, by G. Baldwin Brown, M.A. London: John Murray, Albemarle Street, 1903.

† *Remains of John Byrom.* Chetham Society.

Extract from a letter from John Byrom to Mr. Vigor, March 1st, 1745-6: " . . . We were told one morning that they [the Highland army] were gone to Liverpool, but it was false intelligence, for that day about noon there came a sergeant and a drummer in a Highland dress, with a woman on horseback carrying a drum, which they beat up soon after their arrival for volunteers. My curiosity led me to my sister's window at the Cross, where I beheld this extraordinary event of two men and a half taking our famous town of Manchester without any resistance or opposition. . . . The day that the Prince [Pretender] came in the proclamation of his father was read at the Cross, and the two constables were forced to be there, and one of them to repeat the words."

Other instances are recorded by Dr. Halley:* "The twenty-third of April, 1661, the day on which Charles was crowned at Westminster, was observed throughout Lancashire with magnificence and splendour unexampled even in that county remarkable for magnificent festivals. . . . The preacher [at the collegiate church] was Warden Heyricke. After sermon, from the church marched in order the boroughreeve, constables, and the rest of the burgesses of the town, not then in arms, accompanied by Sir Ralph Assheton, knight and baronet, and divers neighbouring gentlemen of quality, together with the said warden and fellows of the said college, and divers other ministers, with the town music playing before them upon loud instruments through the streets to the cross, and so forward to the conduit, officers and soldiers in their order. . . . This ended, the company as before, with the young boys marched into the town, and were civilly entertained by Dr. Haworth and others

* *Lancashire, its Puritanism and Nonconformity*, by Robert Halley, D.D.

of their mark, and being drawn up at the cross and thereabout, all bareheaded, drank his Majesty's health in sack and claret, at the charge of Mr. Halliwell, giving a volley and shout."

BARLOW CROSS is frequently mentioned in the *Manchester Court Leet Records.* The earliest reference is in 1554. Others are in 1587, 1615, 1623, 1639, 1651, and 1721. Hollingworth mentions Roger de Barlow in 1359.

Mr. Rowbotham's researches have, I think, clearly established the fact that the site of this ancient cross was at the intersection of Oldham Street with Swan Street and Great Ancoats Street, called on Green's map New Cross, a name which has continued to the present day. He writes: "I can find no description of the actual cross itself. . . . It was toward the Ancoats and toward Newton. . . ."

Barritt, who died in 1820, has left an undated sketch of New Cross itself with the adjoining shambles.

There is in the J. Owen MSS. an advertisement, dated 1st June, 1784, relating to the sale of premises in Newton Lane, adjoining lands and premises now or lately called BARLOW CROSS TENEMENT; and another advertisement of 1791, concerning land sold in the same place known by the name of BARLOW CROSS FIELDS. Furthermore Owen gives extracts from the Collegiate Church registers as follows:—

1607 May 3. Edward Ellor & Anne Poulter married.
1619 June 21. Mary, dau: of Edward Ellor of Barlow Cross buried.
1649 Nov. 5. Ann, wife ,, ,, ,,
1659 Feb. 23. Joane, dau: Raphe *Barlowe* of Barlow Cross buried.
1659 ,, 28. Mary, wife Raphe Barlowe of Barlow Cross buried.

Newton Lane (which led to Newton Heath and Oldham) is, of course, the now well-known Oldham Road. In the advertisement of 1784 the use of the word "lately"

indicates a recent change of name, *i.e.*, "New Cross," *vice* "Barlow Cross," and, indeed, the New Cross was standing in 1781. There is, however, reason for supposing that it was erected in the last quarter of the eighteenth century. It is shown as a pyramidal obelisk in Laurent's map of 1793, and was removed in 1819.

Mr. Rowbotham writes: "In the Constable's Accounts (21st April, 1746) several entries occur in reference to the burial 'in the highway at Barlow Cross' of John Rowbotham, who had poisoned himself. Local annals show that the practice of burying suicides was continued on the same spot after the change of name to 'New Cross.'

1808. A servant woman committed suicide by poison & was buried at New Cross Sep. 22.—Axon's *Annals*.

And the same authority under date of 1846 says that 'in the course of excavations at New Cross *several* skeletons were discovered,' and goes on to mention that it was usual to bury such unfortunates at this place. Curiously enough, the Collegiate Church registers contain this entry:—

1706 April 21. buried Thomas son to Thomas Hardman of WHITE CROSS *towards Ancoats*, Lin Weaver.

This is the only reference I have ever seen to the White Cross towards Ancoats."

It seems probable that this reference was to Barlow Cross, which in that case must have been built of white stone.

Aston, writing about a century ago, says that "The corn market is in Fennel Street. It was formerly called Barley-Cross; whether there ever was a cross there is unknown."

It is hardly likely that this so-called "Barley Cross"

is another name for Hyde Cross, and yet it is curious that they were both apparently in the same street and near the corn market.

MARTIN'S CROSSE is thus referred to in the Collegiate Church Registers: "1578 Jan. 15. buried John Birche of Martin's Crosse, householder." Up to the present time, no clue has been discovered as to its position.

LONG MILLGATE CROSS.—The site of this cross was at or near the bend in Long Millgate, two hundred yards from Poet's Corner and the college gates.

Mr. R. W. Procter, in his book *Memorials of Manchester Streets*, published in 1874, writes: "Just a century ago, two announcements appeared in which reference was made to the Rood's Gutter, or Gutter of the Cross, in Long Millgate. Here was an antiquarian mystery to which no key could be found, until one day our local Jonathan Oldbuck [John Owen], while watching the progress of some excavations near Barlow's Yard, discovered the base of a cross, and so the problem was to a certain extent solved. The shaft had vanished so long ago that no trace of it was remembered; but the owner of the ground removed the base to his garden."

In the John Owen MSS. a long account is given of the discovery of this cross base, which was brought to light during the formation of Corporation Street. The stone had bevelled angles, and was socketted to hold an octagonal shaft. It had stood time out of mind in Barlow's Yard, a square formed by a cluster of old houses. The cross may have been one of a series marking the privileged ground round the church during the Sanctuary period.

HYDE CROSS is shown as a Latin cross on a pedestal (on the 1650 map of Manchester) in Hanging Ditch at the point where Fennel Street and Withy Grove unite. Withy Grove is called Withing Grove on this map.

Mr. Rowbotham writes: "The name first appears in the Court Leet Records in 1628, and under various spellings of Hyde, Hoide, Hoyd, and Hide (never Hyde's). It is constantly turning up in the records, and continues so down to a late date though, as in the case of Barlow Cross, there is no mention of the rood itself."

Aston (*Manchester Guide*, 1801) says: "The market for cattle is at Hyde's Cross, so called from there having formerly been a cross there, which from the circumstance of cows being sold in that place was called Hyde's Cross."

An interesting note on the Manchester sanctuary, from the pen of Mr. William Harrison, is printed in the *Transactions of the Lancashire and Cheshire Antiquarian Society*, vol. xvii., in which the history of the temporary refuge to criminals afforded by the church, fleeing from avenging hands, is traced from the seventh century down to the sixteenth. Many Acts of Parliament were passed in connection with these rights. Manchester was appointed as a sanctuary in the thirty-second year of the reign of Henry VIII. This privilege attached to Manchester for one year only, for it fostered the segregation of so many vagabonds that it was found to be an intolerable nuisance. By an Act of 21 James I. all sanctuaries were abolished in England.

MARKET STED LANE CROSS.—From the following extract from the Court Leet Records (1554) it is pretty clear that there was a cross on the line of the present

Market Street at that time. This memorial was evidently quite distinct from THE CROSS in the Market Place. "The Jurye, order all middens betwyx the conduitt and the crosse in Market Sted lanne to be taken away etc." The conduit stood at the lower end of Market Street, not far from the present "big lamp."

Red Cross Street is shown on Green's map as a short street between Princess Street and Back King Street. The name may have arisen, as in other towns, from a red cross having been painted or fixed on a house, or from a cross made of red stone having once stood in it, and in this case it may be identical with the cross in Market Sted Lane previously mentioned.

Cross Street, now a wide street, was in Green's time a short continuation to the north of Red Cross Street.

Other probable crosses are thus referred to by Mr. Crofton in the *History of Newton Chapelry:* "The Whitworths were lessees, under the Warden and Fellows, of land called, in the Collegiate Church Charter of 1556, Scotland Crosse in Manchester, and in that of 1578 Scotland Cross in Newton, and in 1635 Scotland Croft in Newton, and at the latter two dates the lessee was John Whitworth."

In the *Manchester Court Leet Records* there are the following entries: In 1592, "the pavement betwixt Patricke Stone and Salford Bridge is in decay and broken;" in 1618 there is mention of "rooms anenste ye Patrick Stone being an ordinary way both to ye churche and market place." We have no clue as to the character of this stone. It may possibly have been a cross.

CROSS LANE CROSS.—It seems probable that a cross once stood on the triangular piece of ground (only enclosed within recent years) at the northerly end of Cross Lane, at its junction with the main road from Manchester to Pendleton, variously called as it leaves Manchester, Chapel Street, the Crescent (formerly Broken Bank), New Richmond,* and Broad Street, the latter taking us to the triangular piece of ground on which S. Thomas's Church, Pendleton, now stands, and where a cross once stood.

Mr. Rowbotham writes: "Cross Lane is mentioned in 1635, 1641, and 1673. To-day it is, of course, an important cross road between the old highway to Eccles and the new, but in the seventeenth century the latter did not exist, and it, therefore, seems not improbably to have been named from some old memorial of which all other memory is lost—as in Rooden Lane, Prestwich."†

WHITE CROSS BANK.—These words occur on Green's map at a widening of the road between Manchester and Pendleton, at a point where Oldfield Lane joins Chapel Street, and close to the south-east corner of the above-mentioned loop in the river Irwell. From this point

* There can be little doubt that the name "New Richmond" was given to this part of the Crescent, because the view from it looking north, down the precipitous bank towards a deep loop in the river Irwell, has a singular resemblance to that immortalised by Turner in one of his pictures, taken, I should think, from the terrace of the "Star and Garter," at Richmond. From this lofty position a magnificent view is obtained of a sinuous sweep of the river Thames. A still better view of the Irwell would be from the upper windows of the fine old brick houses which line the westerly side of the Crescent. These are shown on Green's map, and are probably one hundred and fifty years old. They were thus built at a time when the Irwell valley was comparatively free from the dense smoke which now often envelops it. This part of Salford was at one time a fashionable locality. Similar old brick mansions stand on the crest of Richmond Hill.

† Compare with the latter Rood Eye (cross island), Chester.

SALFORD CROSS.

(as already stated) there is a precipitous descent to the river. Here is the one Mile Stone from Manchester. There can be little doubt that a cross of white stone at one time stood on this spot.

THE SALFORD CROSS.—This structure—demolished in the year 1824—was probably the successor of many which, in the course of centuries, were erected one after the other on this site. It stood on the westerly side of the Salford Court House and is clearly marked on the 1650 map. No uncertainty as to its design exists, for an excellent drawing of it was made by Ralston about the year 1812. The design consisted of a tall classical column standing on three steps and surmounted by a crown. At its base were the stocks, the criminal sitting on one of the steps of the cross. Near it was the pump. The design resembled in many respects some of those illustrated in the chapter on the hundred of Amounderness.

Here John Wesley preached to a wild assembly in the year 1747.* Procter thus describes the event: "The earliest historical notice we meet touching Salford Cross takes date from the origin of Methodism in this town. John Wesley, preaching on the steps of the cross, received no kindly welcome from the bystanders. In language quaintly descriptive we are informed that one of the 'unbroken spirits' around him, more unruly than the rest, threatened to bring out the engine and play it upon the zealous itinerant preacher. 'I walked,' observes Mr. Wesley in his journal dated May, 1747, 'straight to Salford Cross. A numberless crowd of people partly ran before, partly followed after me. I thought it best not to sing, but, looking round, asked abruptly, "Why do you

* *Memorials of Manchester Streets.*

look as if you had never seen me before? Many of you have seen me in the neighbouring church both preaching and administering the sacrament." I then began . . . As I was drawing to a conclusion, a big man thrust in with three or four more, and bade them bring out the engine.' . . . Salford Cross was the scene of tumultuous rejoicing in July, 1821, when the coronation of George IV. was celebrated with exceeding magnificence throughout Manchester and Salford."

As the Portmote and other Records make no mention of markets, we must conclude that the Salford Cross was used mainly as a Proclamation Cross, and that no markets of any importance were held here, but only across the water in Manchester.

In more than one preceding chapter, attention has been drawn to the fact that a series of crosses once stood on the principal roads leading out of some of the ancient towns of the county, as at Preston and Ulverston. Such a series apparently once existed on the old road from Manchester through Pendleton to Eccles, Patricroft, and beyond. It is not improbable that several of them were erected for devotional purposes. In mediæval times, and especially after the Wars of the Roses, ruffianly robbers filled the country districts, bent on the plunder of merchants, who it is well known often prayed for a safe journey at wayside crosses.

I assume that the first cross stood, as already mentioned, on White Cross Bank, one mile west of the Manchester market place. The next would be at the end of Cross Lane, half a mile west from the preceding. Another half mile would bring the traveller to Pendleton Green, on which a cross stood before the present church

was built. Eccles is two miles beyond Pendleton, and here, as we shall see, were two crosses in the market place. There may have been others between these villages. Patricroft is a mile west from Eccles. In all probability a cross, dedicated to S. Patrick, once stood here. Proceeding from Patricroft, on the ancient road to Warrington, Barton Old Hall is reached at a distance of a full half mile. The ancient cross discovered here by Mr. Rowbotham is described later in these pages. The site of another cross is probably recorded by the words "Cross Field," which we find on the ordnance map on the north side of this road—two miles south-west from Barton Cross—and about half a mile short of the village of Higher Irlam. This road skirts the vast morass called Chat Moss, a dangerous place for travellers in the old times, and this cross (and possibly others of which there is now no record) may have been placed here as guides to travellers.

LADY PEARLE.—In the *Salford Portmote Records* the editor refers to the various entries in these volumes which show that miraculous powers were supposed to belong to the waters of this spring. The site was on the northerly side of the Irwell, half a mile in a south-westerly direction from the Salford Cross, a little to the west of the present New Bailey Street bridge.

Mr. J. G. de T. Mandley writes: "Among such items there appear several sums paid for 'Carrying a Creple (cripple) to the powl.' In some cases the 'creples' were carried on horseback, in others on a barrow—probably a hand, not a wheel barrow. By the 'powl' or pool I take it that the 'Pirle' or 'Lady Pearle' spring is meant. In all probability this spring was the one that gave the name to the spaw or spa house (shown in the engraving,

'South West Prospect of Manchester and Salford,' 1710–1730), supposed to have been on the river bank where Stanley Street now is and where the Lying-in Hospital used to be, and credited, like Holywell in North Wales, and other such places, with miraculous healing property."

Halliwell Lane, Cheetham Hill, about one and a half miles to the north of Manchester, may have been the site of a mediæval holy well, although these words do not necessarily prove that such a well ever existed here.

KERSAL CELL is thus described in Dugdale's *Monasticon:* "At Kershall or Kyrkshawe, a Cluniac cell. King Henry II. granted and King John, *anno reg.* 1, confirmed, to the monastery of Lenton, in Nottinghamshire, the hermitage here, which thereupon became a small house of Cluniac Monks, and a cell to that priory was granted, 32 Henry VIII., to Baldwin Willoughby."

Kersal Cell is now an interesting old-fashioned house. It contains an ancient domestic chapel on the first floor. The house is two and a half miles north-west from Manchester Cathedral.

PENDLETON CROSS.—A record of this structure is to be found in the Binns Collection at Liverpool, on a map of Pendleton Green—a triangular piece of ground on which S. Thomas's Church now stands. A small church, Baines states, was built here in 1776. It was rebuilt in 1831. The plan is undated, but on it is drawn a Latin cross on steps, similar to those shown on Saxton's map of Lancaster. Close to the cross are some lines, which, I think, are intended to represent the stocks. These structures are shown on the southerly side of the green.

ECCLES.

The site of this village is about four miles west from Manchester and a quarter of a mile north of a bend in the river Irwell. The church is ancient,* and stands about two hundred yards to the north of the heart of the village. The market place is of a somewhat unusual shape, two hundred yards in length with a triangular space at each end, from which roads diverge in various directions. At the time of the original ordnance survey (in 1845) the easterly triangle was regarded as the market place, and is so marked on the map. In the middle of it is still to be seen a rough stone pillar, which may have been the shaft of the ancient cross. The surveyors evidently so regarded it, for the word "Cross," in ancient Gothic letters, appears close to it on the map. This pillar resembles that near the stocks at Roby, in the West Derby hundred. Near this pillar an ill-proportioned Latin cross has, in recent times, been erected on two thin steps. In the triangular space at the west end of the market place, at one time stood another cross, all traces of which have disappeared. This was called the Lower Cross, and the market cross the Upper Cross.

LADY'S WELL, ECCLES.—This holy well is marked on the ordnance map in a clough on the easterly side of Gilda Brook, a small tributary of the Irwell. The site is about three hundred yards east of the parish church. The spot is well-known to the Eccles villagers, and the well is still in existence.

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* "From *ecclesia*, the source of such Welsh and Scotch names as Ecclefechan . . . we may probably explain the names of Eccles, in Norfolk and Lancashire . . . and five places called Eccleston."—*Names and their Histories.*

LORD'S WELL, ECCLES.—This well is shown on the ordnance map on the opposite side of Gilda Brook, within a few yards of Lady's Well.

Monk's Hall is distant a quarter of a mile north-west from Eccles Market Place.

SALTER'S LANE CROSS.—During the formation of the Manchester Ship Canal in 1889 a portion of the shaft of a pre-Norman cross was discovered at a depth of about seventeen feet below the surface, at the point where Salter's Lane leads from the Eccles Market Place down to a very ancient ford over the river Irwell. The stone is now in the Owens College Museum in Manchester, and is two feet in height, five inches thick, and thirteen and a half inches across the top. The face is covered with interlacing rope-work ornamentation of a type very familiar to us. A good example occurs at Bolton-le-Sands.

This ford has been assumed to be one over which salt was carried to Manchester from the mines in Cheshire, but unquestionably it has a much earlier derivation. Canon Isaac Taylor tells us (as already mentioned) that "Salterford, Notts (D.B. Saltreford), must be the ford at the sallow tree (A.S. *sealh*, a sallow)." Crosses in mediæval times were often placed near fords for the purpose of encouraging acts of devotion on the part of travellers, whose business not infrequently compelled them to cross a river in flood time, or when there was some real danger to life.

Patricroft (as we have seen) is an ancient village on the old road between Manchester and Warrington, one mile west of Eccles. I have been favoured with some ingenious speculations as to the probability of there once

PRE-NORMAN CROSS SHAFT.

SALTER'S LANE, ECCLES.

having been an ancient cross here, dedicated to S. Patrick, and to the frequent interchange of the words "cross" and "croft" in this and other localities. As an instance, we may notice that the little village of Croft's Bank, about one mile south of Barton-on-Irwell, until the year 1838 was called "Cross Bank," and the old inhabitants still cling to this name.

BARTON CROSS.—Barton Old Hall, surrounded by a moat, was on the north side of the same road, half a mile south-west from Patricroft, and about one hundred and fifty yards east of Salt Eye Brook.

In the volume for 1893 of the Lancashire and Cheshire Antiquarian Society Mr. Rowbotham gives a suggested restoration of an ancient cross which at one time evidently stood near this old hall. In 1886 he discovered a portion of the shaft, which had recently been dug up not far from the hall, close to Salt Eye Brook. The head of the cross, a sculptured stone, was built into the wall of an outbuilding at Barton Hall.

Mr. Rowbotham writes: "The subject of the sculpture is very singular, and exhibits the crowned figure of the Supreme seated within a well-carved niche and supporting a crucifix. The trefoil-cusped head of the niche is surmounted by two pinnacles and a central finial ornamented with crockets. Apparently the artist intended the principal figure to be represented with hands upraised in the act of benediction, but these members are now lost. . . . Heads of crosses of this type are almost invariably sculptured on all the four faces, and I believe the Barton stone was thus formerly embellished. Two of its faces are buried deep in the old ten-inch brick wall and cannot be examined. . . . In the accompanying restoration I have endeavoured to give some idea of the

appearance which this venerable landmark of our faith may have presented, when first it rose above the wayside, close by the edge of the once formidable Chat Moss." . . .

There is some probability that Thomas del Boothe, who is said to have built the chapel on Salford Bridge for the repose of his soul, who also founded a chantry in Eccles Church, and who lived at Barton Hall, may have erected this cross. He died in the last quarter of the fourteenth century.

LADY WELL, CADISHEAD.—The partial disappearance of this spring is due mainly to the formation of the Manchester Ship Canal, which caused a disturbance in the natural drainage of the district about fifteen years ago.

Mr. Basil R. Tucker, of Cadishead, informs me that in his boyhood the Lady Well was a spring of pure sparkling water of much repute. It is a simple spring, under a hawthorn hedge, staked round with timber. The water used to gush out from a bank of glacial clay and gravel. The meadow opposite bears the name of Mill Hill. The site is about half a mile nearly due west from the village of Cadishead, and the same distance north-west from the Mersey.

STRETFORD VILLAGE CROSS.—Some interesting particulars of this old village or market cross are given in the *History of Stretford Chapel*, n.s., by Mr. H. T. Crofton (Chetham Society, vol. 45). In this book are reproductions of old maps of Stretford,* which show the cross and stocks at the meeting of King Street and Edge Lane with the Roman road from Manchester to Chester. At the date of these maps (1782) there were only one or two cottages

* "The fourteen Stratfords were fords on Roman roads. The thirty places called Stretton or Stratton also mark the lines of Roman roads."—*Names and their Histories.*

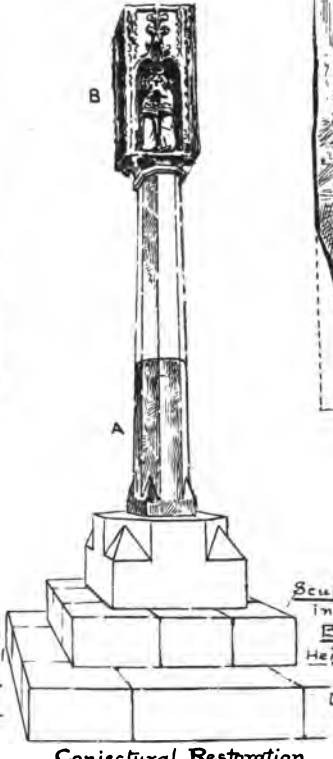
BARTON — ON — IRWELL.

A

B

B

A



A.
Cross Shaft found near Barton Old Hall in 1886.
Height Feet 3 Inches 7
Square at Base " 1 " —

B
Sculptured Stone built into wall of out-building Barton Old Hall.
Height Feet 3 Inches 4.
Width " 1 " 5.
Depth —— " 11.

Conjectural Restoration

Total Height 16 feet.

G.H. Rowbotham del.
1893.

near the open space on which the cross stood. This space has since been considerably encroached upon by buildings. The site is a quarter of a mile north-east from Stretford Chapel. King Street is the old road leading to Urmston and Flixton, and Edge Lane that to Chorlton-cum-Hardy. The stocks are shown in the usual position at the base of the cross, on the north or Manchester side of it.

We have here again an instance in the village accounts in which various persons are identified by their residence near the cross: "Joh'es Chorlton de Cross [Jur' sworn]." "For not cleansing his part of White-Lach gutt^{r} . . . John Chorlton de Cross 8^{d}." "James Taylor de Moss Lane and John Chorlton de Cross Carrier to ditch their parts in the Moss Lane on eith^{r} syde the through in the sayd lane." "Mary Barlow de Cross, 3 Rodds 3½yds."

"THE GREAT STONE."—These words occur on the ordnance maps two and three-quarter miles to the south-west of the Baron's Yard, Manchester, on the easterly side of the Roman road which passes through Stretford. The site is about one mile north-east from the Stretford Market Cross. A full description is given by Mr. Crofton, in his *History of Stretford Chapel*,* of this curious relic, which consists of a solid block of stone measuring five feet four inches in length, two feet in breadth, and three feet in height. The top of this stone has been socketted with two rectangular-shaped holes, each measuring thirteen inches by eight inches on plan, and seven inches in depth. One of these socket holes is on a slightly higher level than the other, and is surrounded by a small plinth.

* Chetham Society, n.s., vols. 42, 45, 51.

There are two plausible theories as to the history of this stone, one view being that the sockets once contained crosses of unequal height, like those in the market place at Sandbach. The other view is that the sockets contained pillars similar to "Robin Hood's Picking Rods" on Ludworth Moor, eleven miles east-south-east from Manchester. A similar instance occurs outside Lyme Park, near Disley, thirteen miles south-east from Manchester, and known as the Bow-stones. Excellent illustrations of the "Great Stone," the Bow-stones Lyme, the Picking Rods, and the Sandbach crosses are given by Mr. Crofton in these volumes, and he quotes numerous other instances, in Cheshire and elsewhere, of similar structures. It has been assumed that the Bow-stones are military monuments of great but unknown antiquity.

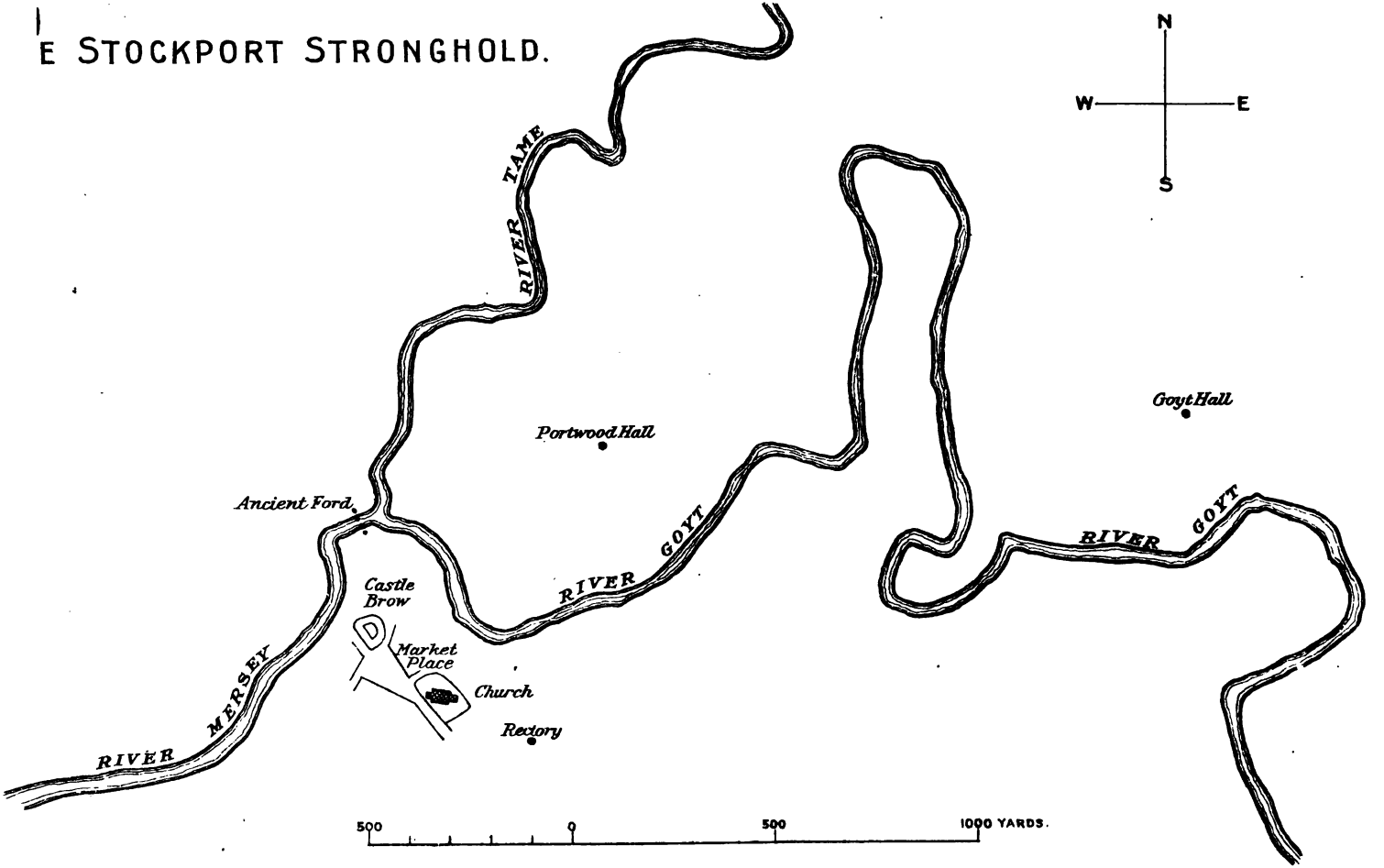
The subject is also dealt with by Dr. Renaud, Chet. Soc., vol. 97; by Earwaker in *East Cheshire;* by J. Romilly Allen in *The Early Christian Monuments of Lancashire and Cheshire;* and by Calverley in *Early Sculptured Crosses in Carlisle Diocese.* It seems probable that in the time of plague these socket holes contained vinegar for washing the money deposited there for commercial purposes.

In the churchwardens' accounts of the ancient chapel of Stretford the following entries occur in the year 1748 relating to persons who lived near the "Great Stone":—

John Shawcross, Great Stone - - -	1 . 1 . 0
. . . . .	
Thomas Hampson Gt Stone - - -	10 . 0
Thomas Wright at Gt Stone - - -	10 . 0
. . . . .	
Samuel Roylance Gt Stone - - -	2 . 6

Amongst the few references in the *Chartulary of Cockersand Abbey* (vol. xliii., p. 730) to crosses marking

E STOCKPORT STRONGHOLD.



lands in the Salford hundred is the following in this locality:—

Grant in frankalmoign from Odo, son of Ingrith de Withington [to the canons of Cockersand] of a portion of his land in Withington, to wit eight acres of land by the great ditch on the south side, as the crosses indicate; with common of pasture and all liberties and easements belonging to his fee of the said town. Any future demand upon this land to be discharged by the residue of his fee [1184–1210 *c.*].

STOCKPORT.

Stockport—a border town between Lancashire and Cheshire—is another typical example of the way in which a strong naturally defensive site was utilised by early settlers. It would be difficult indeed to find a stronger position, the castle, the market place, and the church grouped together on a small but lofty plateau, within a loop of the river Mersey, resembling in several respects the Manchester stronghold at the junction of the Irk with the Irwell. Being on a great Roman road, there can be little doubt that here, at one time, was a Roman camp of more or less importance. Not merely had the site the natural advantage of a rock within the bend of a river, but, in addition, it is a river junction site, the Tame joining the Goyt at this point; and, moreover, the low-lying land between these rivers to the north-east was at one time marshy, making the advance of adversaries difficult. Reference to the map will show that this marshy ground was about three-quarters of a mile in length and half a mile in width, much like the ground to the north of Bury.

In his *Domesday Notes*, the late Canon Isaac Taylor tells us that Stockport was originally called Stockford, a place where stakes were driven in across the river, so making a ford. My friend, the late Mr. E. C. Howard

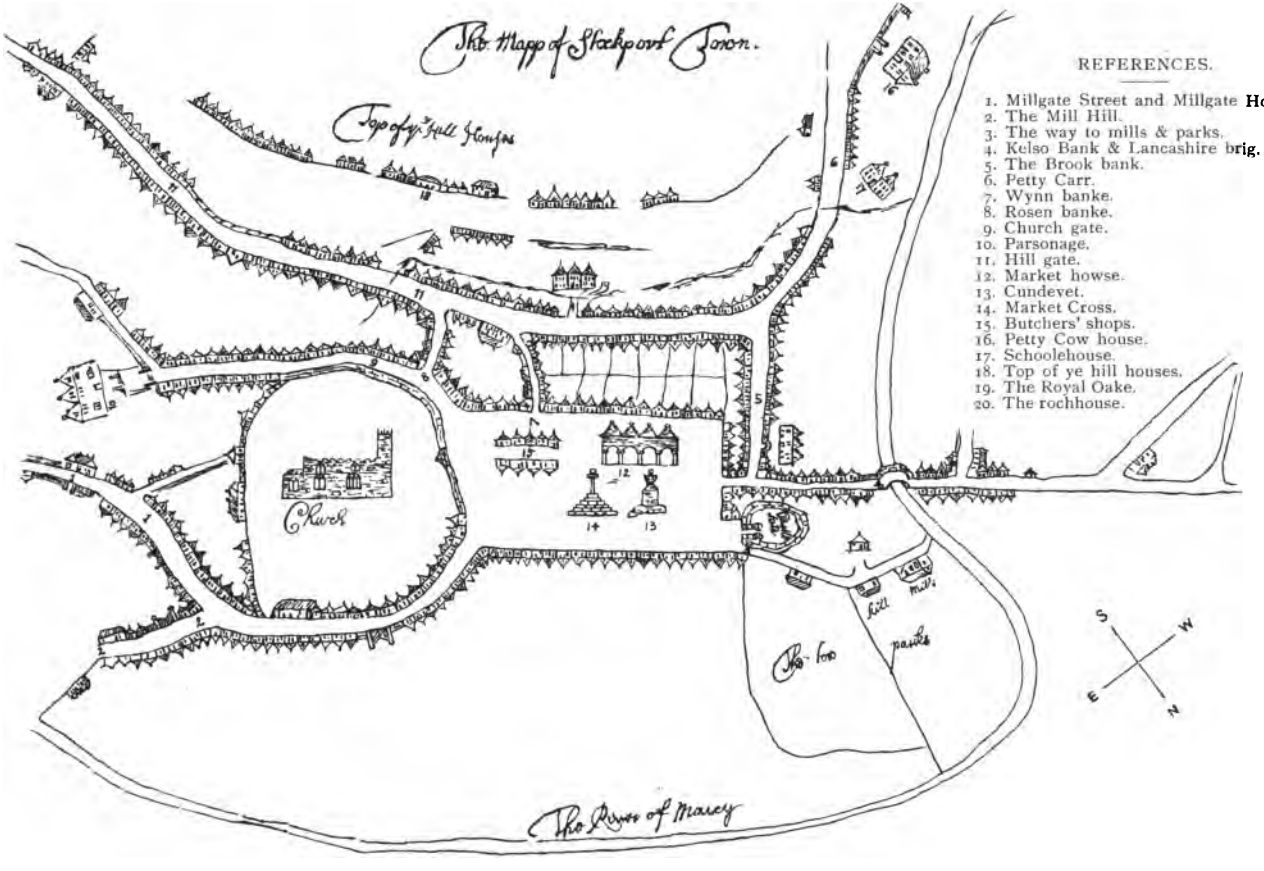
(an old Stockport resident), many years ago marked on my map the position where these stakes were placed. It is about seventy yards west of the river junction in the middle of the bend of the Mersey. Subsequently, the river was crossed by a bridge, about two hundred and fifty yards south of the ford, at Teviot Dale, from which point the old road rises precipitately to the north. It was, indeed, found to be so dangerously steep for the coaches that a new road, sweeping round to the east, was subsequently formed.

In an interesting paper by Mr. Kay, in the Lancashire and Cheshire Antiquarian Society's *Transactions* for 1896, a sketch is given of the ancient walls of the town and castle site. The castle was destroyed during the Civil Wars.

Dr. Heginbotham,* in describing the site, writes: "It only requires a very superficial examination of the rock upon which the castle stood, and which can even now be easily traced, to enable anyone to be convinced of the impregnability of the fortress before the introduction of the powerful means employed in modern warfare. Perpendicular cliffs and precipices on the west, the north, and the north-easterly sides rendered it quite unapproachable, whilst on the east and south-east it was bounded by a steep ascent from the river Mersey, which was only fordable at this point. In a stream of such magnitude as the Mersey then was, the command of this ford would be most important, and no doubt every available means of defending it would be adopted."

The oldest map of Stockport which I have yet seen shows the town as it existed *circa* 1680. It is reproduced in Heginbotham's *Stockport* from an old sketch plan in the possession of a Stockport resident, and shows the

* *Stockport, Ancient and Modern*, by Henry Heginbotham.


The Mapp of Stockport Town.
Top of ye Hill Houses
Church
The River of Mersey
REFERENCES.
1. Millgate Street and Millgate House.
2. The Mill Hill.
3. The way to mills & parks.
4. Kelso Bank & Lancashire brig.
5. The Brook bank.
6. Petty Carr.
7. Wynn banke.
8. Rosen banke.
9. Church gate.
10. Parsonage.
11. Hill gate.
12. Market howse.
13. Cundevet.
14. Market Cross.
15. Butchers' shops.
16. Petty Cow house.
17. Schoolehouse.
18. Top of ye hill houses.
19. The Royal Oake.
20. The rochhouse.
S
W
E
N

market place with the market cross on a flight of steps, the market house (a four-gabled building, standing on pillars, near the middle of the market place), and the conduit, near the cross. The church and castle are shown at either end of the market place. This plan is rough, but in its main features I think is trustworthy.

The market place, as shown on Baines's 1824 map, is of a nearly triangular shape, the apex of the triangle being close to the western entrance of the churchyard. It is so shown, also, on a tracing with which the Ordnance Survey Department at Southampton have kindly favoured me, taken from an unpublished manuscript plan dated 1844, to a scale of five feet to the mile. It is clear, however, that various encroachments were made, both on the market place and on the churchyard, at various times between the years 1680 and 1824. On the 1680 map the churchyard occupied the whole of the space between Mill Gate and Church Gate, but in the later plans (1824 and 1844) the churchyard was reduced fully one-third by buildings on the north-east, facing Mill Gate. It is also, I think, fairly certain that at the earlier date the market place, as shown on the 1680 plan, was in shape a parallelogram and not a triangle, encroachments having been made upon it on its northerly side at some unknown period. On the 1824 map a building of a semi-circular shape, probably on the old castle foundations, appears on the castle site on Castle Brow. These had been swept away before the 1844 survey was taken. In 1818 the churchyard was further reduced in size, on the south-westerly side, by the widening of Church Gate.

Dr. Heginbotham writes: "The annexed 'Mapp of Stockport Town' shows that, like all other places of ancient foundation, the buildings of Stockport were clustered near the castle, and around the market place

and church. About 1680, the probable date of the 'Mapp,' the principal streets were the four gates—the Church-gate, the Mill-gate, the Hill-gate, and the Chester-gate, leading towards the chief town of the county. These, with the Underbanks and a few narrow passages and streetlets, formed the entire town. The buildings were mainly half-timbered houses, with their gables to the front, and had a very picturesque and antiquated appearance. . . . . The Millgate was formerly the best end of the town, more particularly after the purchase of Millgate Hall for a town house by Judge Warren about the middle of the seventeenth century. It contained also the residences of the chief gentry of the town and neighbourhood. . . . The market cross was raised on six steps, from which public notices were given, and where, during a portion of the Commonwealth, banns of marriage were proclaimed on three successive market days, but of this cross there is no vestige remaining."

The principal modes of punishment used by the officers of the Court Leet were the following: the brank or scold's bridle, the ducking or cucking stool, the pillory, the stocks, the whipping post, the dungeons. These were most of them in force in the reign of Henry VIII. Women, wearing the scold's bridle, were led by a thong attached to it through the market place. This bridle was hung out on market days as a warning. The Stockport pillory, which was moveable, was always used in the market place. The stocks were originally near the church gates. They were moved to the west end of the market place to prevent annoyance to those attending church.

"The whipping post,* consisting of an upright post with a cross piece in the form of a T, used at first to be

* Heginbotham's *Stockport*, vol. i., p. 174.

inserted in a socket, fixed for that purpose in the centre of the market place. At a later period, in consequence of the interruption to business by the large crowds assembled to witness the flogging, a low cart was employed to convey the offender and the whipping post to some more convenient place. . . . The culprits being stripped to their waists and fastened to the post by their wrists, received the prescribed number of stripes with a heavy whip having nine lashes. After the flogging the prisoner was set at liberty."

The gibbet, which was on Stockport Moor, was last used in 1790, when the body of a murderer was attached to it in an iron cage, and left there till the birds picked the bones clean. The man had been hanged according to law, at Chester, and the body carried aloft in a cart through Stockport as a warning to all beholders.

There appears to be little doubt that, although not mentioned in Domesday, a church stood here prior to the Norman Conquest. Much of the church was pulled down in the year 1810, but the chancel remains with some beautiful fourteenth century work. The church had several chapels dedicated to various saints.

Dr. Heginbotham gives some interesting particulars respecting the history of the manor. He writes: "The manorial history was introduced by the charter granted by Sir Robert de Stokeport, making Stockport a free borough about the year 1220.* This charter . . . defined a

* Dr. Vinogradoff writes (*Growth of the Manor*, pp. 46, 47): "It seems to have escaped notice that the charter of Manchester is not the earliest or the closest copy of that of Salford. Precedence must be claimed for the charter bestowed upon Stockport by one of its early lords, Robert de Stockport. . . . There were three lords of Stockport in succession called Robert, and this has caused our local historians to assign the Stockport charter to a date which seems much too early. Mr. Earwaker, for instance, gives the date 1225. This would make it a precedent for,

most comprehensive scheme of local government, affording ample protection for life and property, and providing for the annual election of a mayor and chief magistrate, and the formation of courts to exercise and enforce the powers thus granted. They were so complete and generally applicable as to remain in use unaltered and almost unimpaired for more than six hundred years. . . . There is undeniable proof that the De Stokeports owned this place as early as the twelfth century and most probably derived their names from its possession. At that time the village of Stockport must have been merely an appendage to the castle commanding the ford of the river at this point, and served most probably for the accommodation of travellers waiting for the subsidence of the waters in times of flood."

Dr. Heginbotham carries the manorial history of the town down to Lord Vernon, the last possessor of the manorial rights.

Records of ancient crosses are to be found in the perambulations of the parish. That in 1612 refers to Maken's Cross and to Losse Crosse, and "restile a Cross" [Resily Cross] is mentioned in the rate book for 1772, but no clue is given as to their situation.

"At Mile-end,* on the bounds of the Roman road, there were found the remains of an ancient cross, broken

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instead of a copy of, the Salford charter, a conclusion hardly to be reconciled with the internal evidence. A careful examination of the names of the witnesses and other indications, renders it probable that Stockport received her charter from the third Robert de Stockport, in or shortly after 1260, in which year we know that he received a grant of a weekly market and an annual fair from Edward, eldest son of Henry III., in his capacity as Earl of Chester. This would place it, therefore, about thirty years later than the Salford charter, and about forty years earlier than that of Manchester."

* Heginbotham's *Stockport*, vol. i., p. 15.

down nearly to its pedestal. When these remains were removed from their position a tesselated pavement was discovered. . . ."

GRINDLOW CROSS.—Mr. Crofton,* in quoting from a deed relating to the manor of Manchester, A.D. 1322, refers to the Grene-law-crosse on [Stockport Road]. He writes: "The bounds began in the line of the water of Schirer [*filo aque de Schirer*, or Shiter, that is Shooter's Brook, which joined the Medlock just to the west of Garret Hall, Brook Street], and so following [southwardly], the King's highway that leadeth from Mamecestre to Stopford [Stockport], under the Medelac [Medlock], and from the Medelac following the King's highway [south] as far as Qwyt-acres-ford [over the Cornbrook] and so [diverging westward along Cornbrook] to Grene-law-Mersh and Thorle-clough [surrounding the Polygon, Ardwick, and returning eastwardly], as far as Grene-law-crosse [on Stockport Road], and from the Grene-law-crosse [along that road] to Grene-law-acre [at Blackstake brook], and descending [westward along Blackstake brook, skirting Victoria Park] . . ."

Blackstake brook runs nearly due east and west, forming for about a mile the northerly boundary of Victoria Park. The ordnance map (surveyed in 1845) shows it to be part of the southerly municipal boundary of the city of Manchester. At the north-east corner of Victoria Park, where Birch Hall Lane and Blackstake brook join the Stockport Road, I find on the map the words, "Grindlow Marsh Farm," and there can consequently be little doubt that it was here that the cross once stood.

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* *Newton Chapelry*, page 429, Chetham Society, vol. 55, n.s.

The Stockport Road is a well-known Roman road. This cross is apparently again referred to in a lease, dated 29th September, 1680 (*Chetham Society Transactions*, vol. 55, n.s.).

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

To those who are familiar with the present smoke-begrimed aspect of South-East Lancashire an effort of the imagination is needed to picture such localities as this as they existed in their rural simplicity even so late as the seventeenth century. At that time Ashton-under-Lyne consisted of the dominating hall and demesne of the lord, picturesquely situated within a sweep in the river Tame. Abutting on his grounds was the spacious churchyard and ancient church; beyond was the market place, from which radiated a few rambling streets adorned with half-timbered houses of varied designs. Now all is changed, the district being thickly covered with factories and monotonous narrow streets, lined with ugly workmen's cottages.

The oldest known plan of the town appeared in Baines' *Gazetteer of Lancashire*, 1824. Here the picturesque old mansion of the Asshetons, so many times altered and rebuilt, with its dungeon, gardens, and orchard, is clearly shown, together with the church and market cross. Later on we have the first ordnance survey, dating from the year 1844 (five feet scale), showing the old and the new market places, the church, and the old hall, which was not pulled down until the year 1890.*

* Interesting descriptions of this structure, and notes on the hall or castle which preceded it in mediæval times, are to be found in Dr. Aikin's *Forty Miles Round Manchester*, published in 1795; the *Transactions of the Lancashire and Cheshire Antiquarian Society* for 1889; in J. Butterworth's *Ashton-under-Lyne*, 1827; and in Glover's *Ashton under-Lyne*, 1884.

Ashton-under-Lyne was originally a part of the large Manchester parish, and is distant five miles east from the heart of the city. At an early date, the manor passed into the hands of Thomas de la Warre, lord of Manchester, and subsequently, in the reign of Henry VI., was transferred to the Assheton family, who played an important part in the Wars of the Roses. Early in the sixteenth century the property passed to Sir William Booth, an ancestor of the Earl of Stamford and Warrington. In this family the estate still remains. The church, dedicated to S. Michael, was (as has been already mentioned) in all probability one of the two churches mentioned in Domesday as belonging to Manchester. It contains some interesting stained glass, placed there by the Assheton family in the fifteenth century. In the process of rebuilding this glass has changed its place, but the Rev. G. A. Pugh* has given a detailed description of one of the subjects, the numerous incidents in the life of S. Helena, her marriage, the church which she built at Jerusalem, her landing in the Holy Land, and the legend of the invention of the Cross.

The market place has been much altered and partially built over in modern times. It is called on recent maps "St. Michael's Square." A new and larger market place has been formed, and a town hall built in another part of the town.

Sir John Assheton, who was knighted by Henry IV. in 1399, obtained charters for two fairs for cattle in Ashton on the eve, feast, and morrow of S. Swithun, and on the eve, feast, and morrow of S. Martin.

On one side of the market place stood the manor court house, erected in 1636 and taken down in 1889. This

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* *Transactions of the Lancashire and Cheshire Antiquarian Society* for 1902.

building was of brick, and not of much architectural interest. The stocks, according to the late Mr. Burton, of Ashton-under-Lyne, were in an open space at the end of Market Street, about one hundred and fifty yards from the market place. A view of them is given in Glover's *History of Ashton-under-Lyne.* A field near the Old Hall at the beginning of the nineteenth century was still called Gallows Meadow. It is believed to have been the place of execution of criminals.

THE MARKET CROSS.—In the atlas accompanying Baines' *Gazetteer of Lancashire,* 1824, and in Glover's *Ashton-under-Lyne,* published in 1884, there are somewhat contradictory views of this structure. In the former the sketch is small; but, apart from actual evidence, I should conclude that the cross dated from Perpendicular times. The shaft, diminishing as it went upwards, was in three stages; it was square on plan, and stood on a flight of steps; the shaft was headless in 1824. According to Mr. Glover, however, the shaft of the cross was in two stages, resting on a plinth, the moulding of which appears to be of the Perpendicular period, and on the top of the mutilated shaft was a carved foliated boss of classical design, the structure bearing an inscription, "Erected by T. Walker [and others], 1796." It may be that the cross, becoming dilapidated, was repaired, the upper stage being dispensed with, and the carved boss put in its stead. The structure was, I believe, taken down in the year 1829. The old stocks and the remains of the cross are now in the Stamford Park, Ashton-under-Lyne.

The parish registers contain numerous entries of banns of marriage proclaimed during the Cromwellian epoch at the cross. The following quotations relating to this subject give an interesting picture of some features of the

upheaval which took place at this time in English history, and of the important place which the market cross, nevertheless, still maintained in public estimation :—

In 1653, when the Commonwealth had been some four years established, an Act of Parliament was passed having special relation to the celebration of marriages, and the registering of births, marriages, and deaths.

The provisions of this Act as regards the celebration of marriages were very stringent ones, and afford a good picture of the times. All marriages in churches were done away with, and they were made entirely civil contracts, to be performed before a magistrate. It was enacted: That the names, surnames, addresses, and places of abode of the parties to be married and of their parents or guardians should be published three several Lord's days in the publick meeting place, commonly called the Church or Chappel, or (if the parties shall desire it) in the market place, next to the said Church or Chappel, on three market days in three several weeks next following between the hours of eleven and two.

No marriage was to be solemnized unless the parties could bring a certificate of these "publications" having been duly made. . . . If everything was satisfactory, the marriage was to be solemnized as follows: "The man to be married, taking the woman to be married by the hand, shall plainly and distinctly pronounce these words: 'I, A. B., do here, in the presence of God, the searcher of all hearts, take thee, C. D., for my wedded wife, and do also, in the presence of God and before these witnesses, promise to be unto thee a loving and faithful husband.'"

The Act then proceeds to add in the most stringent manner possible "that no other marriage whatsoever within the Commonwealth of England, after the 29 day of September, 1653, shall be held or accounted a marriage according to the laws of England!" The Justice was also to give the parties so married a certificate in parchment under his hand and seal.

At the Restoration in 1660 this Act was at once repealed, but for some years prior to that time it seems to have been less stringently enforced, and marriages began to be celebrated in church as in the old days. It now only remains to give a few instances showing how these marriages were recorded in the local registers. The entries in the Ashton-under-Lyne registers are unusually full. . . . And again, a publication at the Market Cross: "1654. The purpose of marriage was published between Nicholas Walker, of Ashton, gent., and Susan Leigh, daughter of Henry Leigh, late of Baguley, in the Countie of Chester, Esqr., deceased, three severall Markett dayes at the Markett Cross in Asheton under Lyne att the time appoynted by Act of Parliament, to wit upon the 27th of September, the 4th of October and upon the 11th of the same 1654."

Much has been written about a curious ancient custom

which, I understand, is still celebrated in a mutilated form and called "Riding the Black Lad."

Dr. Aikin,* writing in 1795, thus describes it:—

There is nothing that excites the curiosity of a stranger so much at this place as the annual custom of "Riding the Black Lad," which is always celebrated on Easter Monday. There are different traditions concerning the origin of this extraordinary circumstance, and the idea is generally prevalent that it is kept up to perpetuate the disgraceful actions of Sir Ralph Ashton, who in the year 1483, under the authority of vice-constable of the kingdom, exercised great severity in this part of the country. The following are the particulars of the ceremony: An effigy in the human form, which is made of straw, enclosed in a coarse wrapper and seated on a horse, is first led through the town, after which it is hung up at a cross in the market place and there shot away in the presence of a large concourse of neighbouring people, who always attend to be spectators of the exhibition. Yet from a sum issued out of the Court to defray the expense of the effigy, and from a suit of armour which till of late it usually rode in, together with other particulars handed down by tradition, a very different account of the origin of this custom is preserved.

The upshot of this alternative story (which Dr. Aikin gives in detail) is that the custom is connected with the gallantry of a Thomas Assheton at Nevill's Cross, who bore away the Royal standard from the Scotch king's tent, and that Edward III. left money to commemorate in this manner this display of his valour.

It should be explained that a "lad" in Lancashire is not necessarily a boy. It is a familiar expression of comradeship, and is often applied to quite old men.

The words, "S. Ann's Wells" occur on the 1848 ordnance map near the Fairfield Moravian Settlement, two and three-quarter miles south-west by west from Ashton Parish Church. A controversy amongst local antiquaries has raged round the origin of these words, some contending that the dedication is not of mediæval origin, and, indeed, that it dates only from the first quarter of the nineteenth century. Whether this is so or not, I

* *Forty Miles Round Manchester.*

am informed by old inhabitants that without a doubt the well is ancient, and that it was once surrounded, as in so many other cases, by ancient thorns. In this case they were seven in number. The well was thus known as "Seven Thorns Well." It became abbreviated into "S'n Thorns Well" or "Sentorn's Well," and finally corrupted into "S. Ann's Wells." There can thus be little doubt that this is the Seven Thorns Well on the Ashton Old Road, referred to in deeds of the first half of the thirteenth century (*Lancashire Pipe Rolls and Early Charters*, pp. 329-332, by William Farrer).

THOMPSON'S CROSS.—These words occur on the map on the westerly side of Stalybridge, one mile east of the old parish church of Ashton-under-Lyne. It seems probable that a boundary cross once stood here. This cross has recently been rebuilt.

HURST CROSS.—These words occur on the map in the village of Higher Hurst, one mile in a north-easterly direction from the old parish church of Ashton-under-Lyne.

OLDHAM.

The central part of Oldham is on a hill, six hundred and fifty feet above the sea-level, and about two miles west from the Yorkshire border. Unlike so many other old towns, Oldham was not built defensively within a fold of a river, but the Irk, with its numerous tributaries, flows in a south-westerly direction on the northerly side of the town in its course towards Manchester. The Medlock takes its rise about a mile to the south of the town.

The church is of ancient foundation, and from early times was connected with Prestwich, as old documents

testify, where the words Prestwich-cum-Oldham frequently occur. The stocks, which stood in Church Street, near the churchyard gate, have been removed to the Alexandra Park, near Mumps.

The map of the town given in Baines' *Gazetteer* (1824) shows a central market place, with High Street, West Street, Manchester Street, Cheapside, and others radiating from it. The market place, however, is not of very ancient date. I have not been able to find any records of a market cross, but Baines states that banns of marriage were proclaimed during the Commonwealth in the market place.

Mr. Giles Shaw informs me that about the year 1889 a cross-base was discovered in the market place. It is supposed to have been the foundation of a boundary cross, and may possibly have been one of seven which, according to Mr. Samuel Andrew, surrounded the town and were in existence so late as the end of the sixteenth century, being crosses of S. John of Jerusalem. In support of this view Mr. Andrew, in a pamphlet entitled the "Seven Holy Crosses of Oldham,"* quotes from a manuscript in the possession of the late Canon Raines the following extract from the will of John Newton, collier, 1620:—

I dyd very well knowe seaven crosses called Seaven Holy Crosses and alsoe called St. John's Crosses, to be bounds and meares at Horsedge Landes. I dyd know them all eyther broken or wholle, and doe yett knowe the places where every of them stood. As first a stone crosse stood on the end of Greenacres Moore; the next a wooden crosse, stood at Horsedge Style; the next, a stone crosse, upon the north-east syde of the Edge, called the "Cross under the Edge;" the next, a wooden crosse in Grymbye, called "Grymbye Crosse;" the next, a stone crosse, called "Pighill Style Crosse;" the next, a wooden crosse, in the Town End; and the last and seaventh a stone crosse, in the Moore with the rest of all the crosses, which be one from another of equal distance.

* Oldham: James Neild & Sons, 29, Radclyffe Street, 1887.

A Roman road from Manchester to the camp at Castleshaw and beyond, passed about a mile to the south of the church, but little or nothing is known as to any connection of Oldham with the Roman occupation. A tumulus is shown on the map at the northernmost corner of Chadderton Park one and three-quarter miles north-west by west from Oldham Market Place.

MOSSLEY CROSS.—These words occur on the map three and a quarter miles south-east from Oldham Market Place, on the route of a Roman road from Melandra Castle, shown on Mr. Harrison's archæological map of the county.

CROSSES OVER THE YORKSHIRE BORDER.

DOB CROSS.—These words occur on the map four miles north-east by east from Oldham Market Place, two miles over the border into Yorkshire, and one mile south-east from the Roman road which passes through Mossley. The site is on the top of Greenfield Moor; near it the ordnance map bears the words "Druidical Fairy Hole Remains." The moors hereabouts, indeed, frequently have romantic names, such as "Boggart o'th' Moss" and "Upper Wild Cat Low," and a confirmation is thus given to the remarks which I have made in other chapters that hilly country is generally the home of mystics, poets, and superstitious persons. Sir Walter Scott's novels are, indeed, full of this subject, as in *The Antiquary*, where he writes: "Why performed in such solitude and by what class of choristers, were questions which the terrified imagination of the adept, stirred with all the German superstitions of nixies, oak-kings, wer-wolves, hob-goblins, black spirits and white, blue spirits and grey, durst not even attempt to solve."

BOW GREEN CROSS.—Another cross on these wild moors is marked at Bow Green, where several roads meet, one mile south-east from Dob Cross, and half a mile west from the Druidical remains. The site is three-quarters of a mile south-west by south from Saddleworth Church.

LEE CROSS.—The site is one mile north-east by north from Dob Cross and half a mile north-west from Saddleworth Church, at the intersection of tracks on the moors.

ADAM'S CROSS is marked on the map two miles south-east by east from Saddleworth Church, on Greenfield Moor, one thousand five hundred and ninety-five feet above the sea-level. Half a mile to the south of it are Rocking Stones, and between the two are Standing Rocks.

ROCHDALE.

Owing, doubtless, to the peculiarities of the site, the castle, the church, and the market place are not grouped together—as we find them so frequently elsewhere—in close proximity. The castle stood on the high ground still known as "Castle Hill" at Castleton, on the southerly side of the Roch, distant about two hundred yards from the river bank, and nearly four hundred and eighty feet above the sea-level. The church—which has undergone many alterations in the course of centuries—was built about one-third of a mile to the east-north-east of the castle, and at the same elevation above the sea-level. Both castle and church were placed about eighty feet above the river, and both appear to have been of pre-Norman date. The Spodden joins the Roch at a point about a quarter of a mile north of the Castle Hill.

The old market place, shown on the 1849 map, was small. The site was on low ground immediately to the north of the bridge.

THE MARKET CROSS.—Colonel Fishwick tells us that the market cross remained in its original position until about the beginning of the nineteenth century, when, tradition says, it was pulled down wilfully by some drunken men, and was afterwards removed to Goose Lane. No record of its appearance remains. From the market place the ground rises steeply to the north, and the Roch thus runs in a somewhat deep valley through the centre of the old part of the town. The registers contain the usual entries of civil marriages during the Commonwealth, the banns being published on three successive Sundays at the market cross.

Red Cross Street is shown on Baines' map (1824) about two hundred and sixty yards north of the market place. Owing to the hilly nature of the ground, the old streets have taken a winding and erratic course. The Roman road over Blackstone Edge passed from Manchester on the easterly side of Rochdale.

Colonel Fishwick* tells us that "prior to the middle of the seventeenth century the site of the market had been more than once altered, and that probably in very early times the markets were held in Church Stile (where the cattle fairs were held until quite recently)." Here the stocks once stood; they have now been placed in the churchyard. They bear the date 1666.

Rochdale affords another instance of the cross being a rallying place for all sorts of purposes. From the diary of a bookseller, 28th May, 1794: "Shop just opened, the

* *History of the Parish of Rochdale.*

cows gone. The volunteers returned through the butts; some had great coats; saw them dismissed at the Cross."

The early history of the town and of the lords of the manor is given at great length in Fishwick's *Rochdale*. He tells us that a right to hold a weekly market and an annual fair was granted by Royal charter to the lord of the manor in 1240. He writes:—

> In the year 1661, Richard Lord Byron held the manor. . . . The fifth Lord Byron was succeeded by George Gordon Byron, the poet, who was the only son of the Hon. Captain John Byron. . . . There were thus six Lord Byrons who held the manor of Rochdale, but the connection between the parish and the illustrious family which had existed for so many centuries was soon to be severed. . . . In 1823 the manor, with its rights and privileges, was sold to James Dearden, Esq.

So late as the eighteenth century the town was small, compared with its present extent. The whole place, indeed, did not consist of more than five small, narrow streets: Church Lane, Packer Street, Blackwater, Toad Lane, and Yorkshire Street, formerly the High Street. The importance, however, of Rochdale as a centre is shown by a glance at the map, where we see that no less than seven roads radiate from it to other Lancashire towns. The parish was, indeed, one of the largest in the Salford hundred, measuring in the thirteenth century about twelve miles by ten miles. It was bounded on the north and north-west by that of Whalley, on the south-west by that of Bury, on the south by those of Middleton and Oldham, and on the east by the county of York. A map of the glebe estate, taken in the middle of the eighteenth century, shows that the course of the river Roch has altered.

Colonel Fishwick writes that "Doubtless the statement made by the Abbot of Stanlawe, in 1296, was correct, viz., that 'Rachedal' was neither a borough nor a town, and

that the church was called the church of Castleton, in Rochdale, and not the church of Rochdale."

In the *Manor Court Records*, in the time of Edward III., there were few surnames. Thus, in the year 1335 "Robert" must have lived near the Stocks, for Robert of the Stocks received punishment. Then, again, we find "Thomas of the Stakes," "Adam of the Dene," "Alota the Kever," "John the Smith," "William of the Shore," "Dande of the Green," "William de Crosse Legh," "Henry of the Hill."

LEONARDIN CROSS.—These words appear on the ordnance map at a height of seven hundred feet above the sea-level in an old lane half a mile in a westerly direction from the village of High Crompton and two and three-quarter miles south-east from Rochdale.

HOWARTH CROSS.—The words "Howarth Cross" occur on the map in the village of Smallbridge, one and a half miles north-east from Rochdale Parish Church, at a height of five hundred feet above the sea-level. The main street of the village is called Howarth Cross Brow. The words "Howarth Cross Old Mill" occur close to the junction of the river Beale with the Roch, a quarter of a mile south-east from Howarth Cross.

BLACKSTONE EDGE CROSS.—I am informed that a cross once stood, at a height of nine hundred and fifty-two feet above the sea-level, by the side of the old packhorse road which left Rochdale for Yorkshire in a north-easterly direction. The remains consist of a base-stone and a portion of the shaft of the cross. The site is one and a half miles north-east by east from Littleborough and three-quarters of a mile west from the Yorkshire border.

This old track passed the Howarth Cross at Smallbridge and through Littleborough.

These crosses, and probably others which have disappeared, were doubtless placed to guide merchants and others over these desolate moors. Colonel Fishwick tells us that a trade between Rochdale and the Yorkshire towns existed from a very early period.

On this old packhorse road (just within the Lancashire border) the words "Ancient Entrenchments," at a height of one thousand five hundred feet above the sea-level, are recorded on the ordnance maps.

STUBLEY CROSS HILL.—These words occur on the map at a height of one thousand two hundred and ninety-five feet above the sea-level in wild moorland country, two miles in a north-westerly direction from Littleborough. In this neighbourhood the hills have curious names, as Hades Hill, Jude's Nook, Knave Hill Nigher and Knave Hill Farther, Ringing Pots Hill.

STUBLEY CROSS is named in the Church Survey of 1650. The site is half a mile east of the village of Portsmouth, and near Stubley Old Hall. It was probably a boundary cross between Lancashire and Yorkshire on the road between Burnley and Todmorden.

On the Yorkshire side of this road the ordnance map records the position of various crosses, thus: CROSS LEA is shown one and three-quarter miles south-east by east from Stubley Cross; CROSS STONE, one mile beyond it in the same direction, and CROSS again another mile beyond.

BOOTH DEAN CROSS.—The words OLD CROSS appear on the map at a height of one thousand two hundred and eleven feet above the sea-level, five miles south-east by

east from Rochdale, on the old road from Oldham to Ripponden, which for many miles is called Booth Dean Road. This cross, although actually in Lancashire, is within a few yards of the boundary line between Yorkshire and Lancashire, and it may thus have been placed in its present position in mediæval times as a boundary cross.

On the Yorkshire side of the border on this road, two miles north of Booth Dean Cross, is "Site of Rocking Stone" and "Way Stone," two miles north-east of the same point.

WAY STONE EDGE is marked by a dotted line on the moors passing by Way Stone.

Two miles south-east of Booth Dean Cross is the "Camp" on Castle Hill, near Friarmere.

The words "Windy Harbour" occur on the map quarter of a mile south of the village of Milnrow, and one and three-quarter miles south-east by east from Rochdale.

One mile south-west by south of Bacup is Fair Well, a quarter of a mile south of the river Irwell.

The words "Salford Bridge" occur on the map near the boundary between Lancashire and Yorkshire, one-eighth of a mile south of S. Mary's Church, Todmorden. This bridge superseded an ancient ford across a tributary of the river Calder, where at one time flourished a patch of willows or sallows.

Attention* has been drawn by the late Canon Raines and others to the various "Saltersgates" in the neighbourhood of Manchester, which these authors conceive were roads by which salt was brought to that town from the Cheshire salt mines. Etymology as a science was, however, in its infancy when Canon Raines

* *Notes and Queries*, vol. iv., page 382, 15th November, 1851.

lived,* and no other satisfactory explanation is possible than that in these lanes grew the sallow or willow tree. Many of these roads are, moreover, on the Yorkshire side of Manchester, and throughout the rural districts of England where this name occurs (Salford or Saltersgate) salt mines are non-existent.

In the *History of Newton Chapelry*, Mr. Crofton mentions numerous Saltersgates in the lanes between Manchester and Stockport, a district with which I happen to be intimately acquainted, and where thirty years ago the willow flourished.

ROBIN HOOD'S WELL.—The words "Robin Hood's Well" occur on the map on Whitworth Moor, two miles north-west from Whitworth, at a height of about one thousand one hundred feet above the sea-level.

The words "Robin Hood's Bed" occur on the map on Blackstone Edge Moor, one thousand five hundred and fifty-three feet above the sea-level, close to the Yorkshire border.

BURY.

The accompanying illustrations show at a glance the strength of the position of the old town of Bury; the castle, the market place, and the church all close together on a hilly plateau with a steep descent to the river, which formerly followed a more easterly and sinuous course than now.

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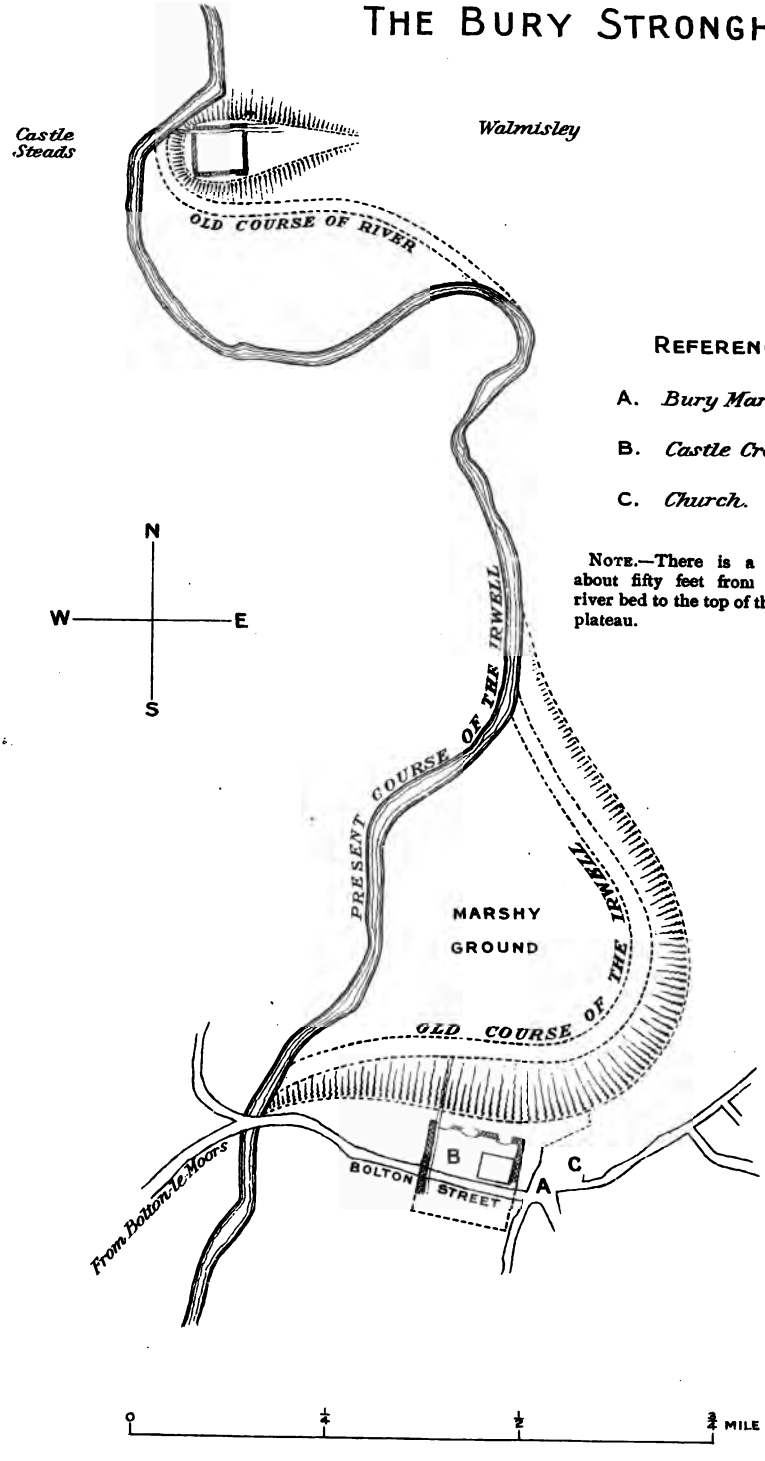
* Canon Raines's chief instance is the road from Rochdale to Burnley. The first portion of this road, however, runs through a deep valley, about nine miles long, through Whitworth and Facit to Bacup, with a stream, the Spodden, at the bottom, the very place to favour the growth of sallows or willows. As already mentioned, Salterford is the ford at the sallow tree, from sallow, A.S. *sealh*, sallow or willow, the common name of various species of the genus salix or willow kind. Saltersgate, consequently, is the road lined with sallows.

THE BURY STRONGHOLD.



Bury is not mentioned as a Roman station either in Watkin's *Roman Lancashire* or in Harrison's archæological survey of the county, although the great Roman road from Manchester to Ribchester passed within one and a half miles of it on the westerly side. A plan of the castle is, however, to be found in vol. xlvii. of the Royal Society's *Transactions* (published in 1753), and in an accompanying article the author describes it as a Roman camp.* This old plan of the castle is valuable, for it shows the former bed of the Irwell, as described above, immediately to the front or north of the castle and church with the words "a steep descent to the river." The castle is shown with a frontage to the north of two hundred yards. The plan is called "Coccium, now Bury Castle Croft." This steep descent is still a feature of the town, although all visible traces of the castle have disappeared in the lapse of time.

To the north of the site the ground was (and still is) marshy, and was thus useful, as in so many other similar instances, for defensive purposes. It is, however, now being gradually filled up for the prevention of floods, and in a few years this important feature of the site will be obliterated.

The former course of the river is not completely shown on any plan which I have seen, but an inspection of the site, looking north from the edge of the castle plateau, leads irresistibly to the conclusion that at a point three-quarters of a mile from the castle the river at some unknown date swept round at the base of the cliff gradually from the plain in a nearly semi-circular line, rising almost imperceptibly until it reached to the full

* *Philosophical Transactions*, vol. xlvii., for the year 1751 and 1752. London, 1753.

height of the castle plateau at a point nearly opposite to the parish church. The river at its widest point thus flowed about one-third of a mile more to the east than it does at present. This marshy ground, measuring about three-quarters of a mile from north to south, and one-third of a mile from east to west, rises slightly from west to east, and I surmise that at one time, perhaps in the time of flood, some impediment caused the river to take the present easier line to the west. The castle would thus be bereft of one of its principal defences.

The Roman camp was probably six hundred feet from north to south, as well as from east to west, and some of its foundations might, therefore, be found by digging on the southerly side of Bolton Street.

From discoveries made during excavations in the year 1865, and recorded in Baines's *Lancashire*, and again in the summer of 1905, it seems clear that a mediæval castle succeeded the Roman camp on this site. The building whose foundations were thus discovered was well buttressed, and appears to have been a keep or peel tower, measuring externally about one hundred and thirteen feet by one hundred and ten feet. It stood near the easterly side of the Roman camp.

Some of the stones from this tower have been used in recent years in building the volunteer barracks, and it may be, indeed, that some of them have been of Roman workmanship. With the hope of arriving at some definite conclusion as to their age, Mr. Frederick Howarth, of Bury, has very kindly made for me a carefully figured drawing of one of these walls with the masons' marks. Unfortunately, a good many of these stones have been discharged into a tip. On this site coins from the reigns of the Edwards onwards have been discovered from time to time.

By the courtesy of Lord Derby's agent I have been supplied with copies of several old plans of the town. The earliest is undated, but was clearly made prior to the year 1831. It bears the name of W. Tarry, surveyor. On it the cross, with a circular base, is shown in the middle of the triangular market place, and the pillory a few yards to the east of it, close to the principal entrance to the churchyard. The Dungeon Inn and the Ring of Bells Inn, which at that time stood at the westerly end of the churchyard, and had been built either as an encroachment on it, or on the market place, or both, were removed prior to the year 1831, the date of another old survey.

The older plan was evidently made in the heyday of the great coaching period, for the market place and the adjoining streets are filled with inns, for no less than ten may be counted on this map, the "Eagle and Child," of course, being one of the signs.

A later and much more complete plan of the town is dated 1843, the survey being made by A. W. Benson. On this plan, the precipitous descent in front of the Castle is clearly shown. At the bottom of this map is engraved the plan of the ancient castle at Castle Crofts, showing the old course of the river, taken from vol. xlvii. of the Royal Society's *Transactions*, already referred to. Furthermore, I have been favoured by the authorities at Southampton with a copy of the manuscript ordnance survey of the town, to the scale of five feet to the mile, made in 1847. This plan differs but slightly from the preceding.

A circle a quarter of a mile in diameter would include the castle, the market place, the church, the rectory, and the grammar school. The churchyard, as in numerous other instances, abuts upon the market place.

The church is of Domesday date. It was rebuilt in

1285 and again in 1775. This church was pulled down in 1871, and the present structure finished in 1876.

Bury is now a great and grimy manufacturing town; at the beginning of the nineteenth century it was a comparatively small village. The growth of the place is curiously illustrated in the names of the streets—Fleet Street, passing out of the market place, shortly becomes Rock Street, Stanley Street, Water Street, and Moorgate, all in a short half mile.

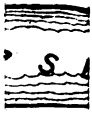
THE MARKET CROSS.—In the year 1818 this structure, having fallen into decay, was taken down. Baines states that it was in the form of a stone column, and that it bore the date 1659. It stood near the centre of the market place, which has since been widened by the setting back of buildings. The probability is that it was the successor of several, which in the course of time had been the rallying place for the town folk in times of commotion. Banns of marriage were published at the market cross in the year 1655 by Edmund Hopwood and Laurence Rostron, magistrates.

The pillory stood near the church gates, and was used for the last time about the year 1800. It was taken down with the cross and stocks.

The court house stood near the cross. Amongst other cruel sentences, in times now happily past, I find that a poor woman was once brought before the magistrates for a misdemeanour. The sentence was that she should be whipped at the market cross till blood was seen to gush from her back.* The customary fish stones were near the cross, and amongst the old inns we find the "Seven Stars."

In almost every instance where the baron or lord had

* *History of the Borough of Bury and Neighbourhood*, by B. T. Barton, 1874.



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placed his castle and church defensively on high ground, the clustering houses of his retainers would, in course of time, be built under the protecting castle precincts at the base or on the slopes of the hilly plateau. In the case of Bury such houses stood on the edge of an ancient green or public ground called the Wylde. The ordnance map gives the height of the old market place as three hundred and fourteen feet above sea-level, falling thence to two hundred and fifty feet on the Irwell bank, near the bridge.

In the reign of Henry VIII. Leland writes: "Byri on Irwell, 4. or v miles from Manchestre, but a poore market. There is a Ruine of a Castel by the paroch chirch yn the Towne. It longgid with the Towne sumtime to the Pilkentons, now to the Erles of Darby."

Half a mile to the south of the market place is a small hamlet called Buckley Wells. Several wells are marked on the map near this place.

The ordnance maps record the existence of other strongholds in this locality in addition to that in the town of Bury, thus the words "Site of a castle" occur on the map one and three-quarter miles north-east of Bury. Close by is "Castle Hill" and "Castle Hill Wood." The hill is about six hundred feet above sea-level. The words "Gallows Hill" occur on the map a quarter of a mile south-east from "Site of a castle."

Another defensive position is indicated on the ordnance map by the words "Castle Steads," one and a quarter miles north-west from Bury Market Place, within a loop of the Irwell. The map shows here an oval mound about five hundred feet long and four hundred feet wide. In the volume for 1753 of the Royal Society's *Transactions*, however, a plan of the fort is given. It is shown to be square on plan, measuring two hundred and forty feet each way, completely filling the loop of the Irwell, with a

very steep descent to the river, a noticeable feature at the present day. Since that date it is clear that the Irwell has changed its course, flowing more to the south. The author of this paper has marked it as a Roman camp, and calls it "Castle Steads in Walmisley, near Bury."

The references in this article* to Bury are few. The author writes: "I am of Mr. Camden's opinion, that about Cockey-moor should be placed Coccium. I search'd along the course of the Roman way for a camp without success. However, at Bury, about a mile out of the course of the way, is a Roman camp, which I take to be Coccium; . . . Bury is a town lying on the Irwell; and on the west side, where the river makes an elbow, is the Roman camp. There is a Roman camp on the same river above it, which I call the *campus æstivus;* the fortifications are not near so large as Bury. . . . At Heap, a mile from Bury, is a tumulus, and another at Heywood, about a mile distant from the first." The most important fort, however, in the neighbourhood was Radcliffe Tower.

LITTLEWOOD CROSS.—The word "Cross" (in Ancient Gothic letters) appears on the map at the meeting of roads one mile north of Bury Market Place. Mr. Throup tells me that it was taken down about 1890. It was a column on steps.

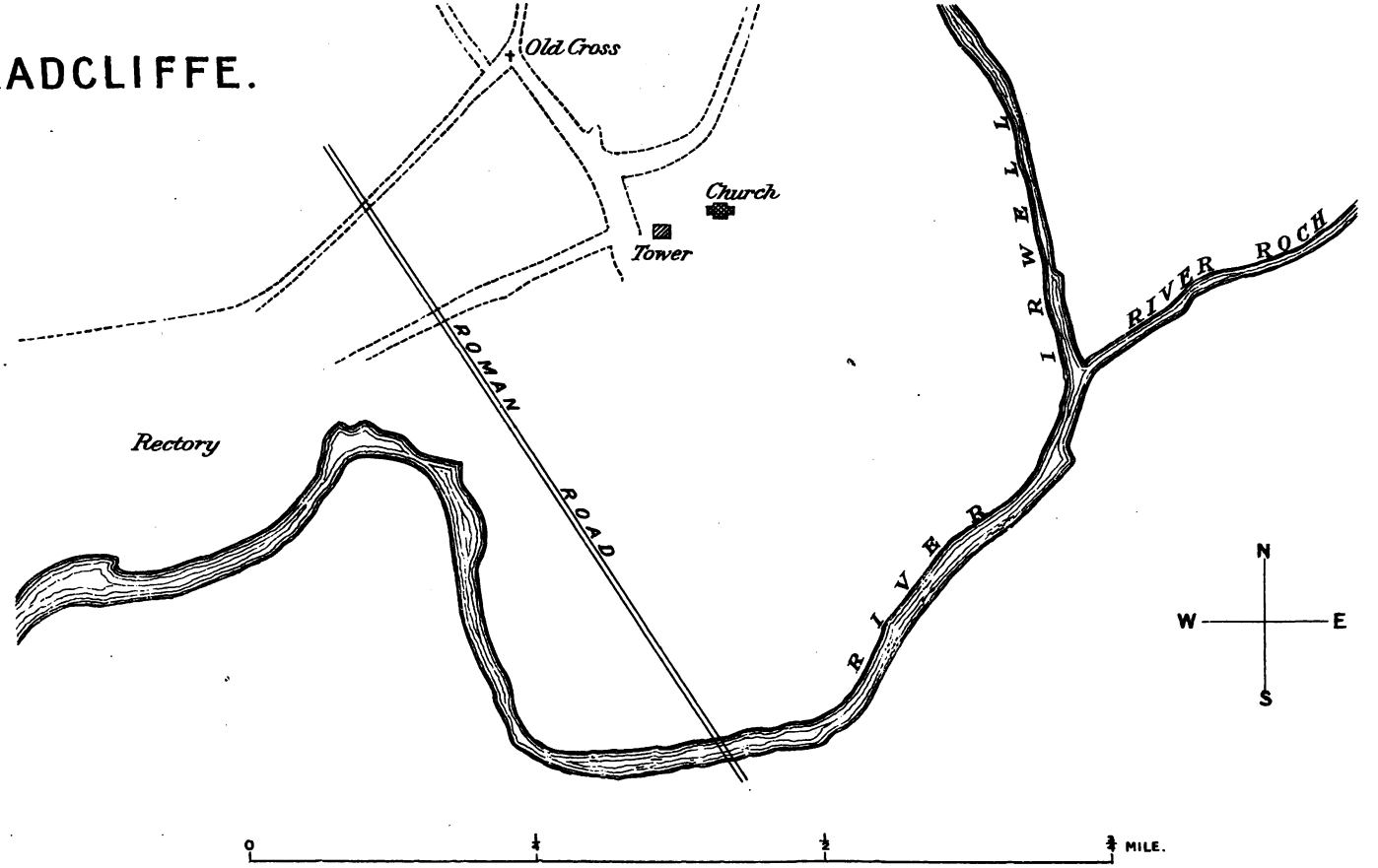
Three-quarters of a mile north of Littlewood Cross is a small building called Cross Hall.

RADCLIFFE.

The position of this old village is a defensive one within a deep loop of the river Irwell and close to its junction

* "Observations on the Roman Colonies and Stations in Cheshire and Lancashire," by Thomas Percival, Esq. Communicated by Hugh Lord Willoughby of Parham, F.R.S.

RADCLIFFE.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with the Roch. The ground within the loop is, however, flat and low-lying, but, nevertheless, it is not improbable that the Romans had a camp or small station here, for a Roman road from Manchester ran right through it. Radcliffe Tower and church were built in the centre of this bend of the river, which is here about half a mile across.

RADCLIFFE VILLAGE CROSS.—The cross was at the meeting of roads a quarter of a mile north-west from the tower. Its site is recorded on the ordnance map by the words "Old Cross" in ancient Gothic letters. Here may have been, not improbably, the old village green and place of common assembly. There was no weekly market, but two unchartered fairs were held during the year.

Radcliffe, which is said to have derived its name from a cliff of red stone, is mentioned in Domesday. There can be little doubt that the castles of Radcliffe and Bury would be connected in early defensive arrangements, for they are only two miles apart, and placed amongst the convolutions of the rivers Roch and Irwell.

In Whitaker's *Whalley* (published in 1805) a view is given of the interior of the great hall of Radcliffe Tower, which, from its style of architecture, dated from the fourteenth century. In Dr. Whitaker's time the place was in ruins, but he says that it must have been a manor-house of the first rank. It had been completely quadrangular, but only two sides then remained. A licence to embattle was obtained in the reign of Henry IV. These remains, with the exception of a few walls, were recklessly destroyed during the first half of the nineteenth century to make room for cottages. Some interesting historical notices appear in Dr. Whitaker's book of the important family of Radcliffe, who resided here (or owned

the place) from the reign of Henry II. to that of Elizabeth, when the building passed out of the family by sale from Thomas Radcliffe, third Earl of Sussex, who died in 1583. During these centuries it is probable that several houses in succession stood on this site.

Dr. Whitaker tells us that "Richard de Radclyve, of Radcliffe Tower, . . . accompanied Edward I. in his wars in Scotland, and obtained of that monarch a charter of free warren in his manor of Radcliffe and Querendon."

The church contains monumental remains of members of this family from the reign of Henry VI. This once rural locality is now desolated by the gloom of various manufacturing industries.

The words "Crosby Hillock" occur on the map three miles south-west from Radcliffe Tower, on the northerly side of the Wardley and Swinton Mosses, close to the turnpike road running through Pendlebury. Three-quarters of a mile north of this hillock is "Giants' Seat Wood."

Another of the numerous "Dunkirkes" which we find on the maps of Lancashire is three-quarters of a mile east of Old Kenyon Peel Hall, and a full half-mile south-east from Street Gate.

Great Lever Hall (in the seventeenth century one of the residences of the bishops of Chester) is built, with its chapel, on an eminence south of a bend in the river Croal, one mile south-east from its junction with the Irwell. The hall had a long anterior history.

There is much of picturesqueness in the scenery of the valley of the Irwell (and some archæological interest) in the six miles of its course after its junction with the Roch, for, as ground on each side of it rises gradually from Manchester to a considerable height, the river runs more or less between precipitous cliffs. Travelling from Manchester, along the south-westerly side of the river,

Pendleton (the tun on the pen or hill) is reached at a distance of about two miles. Another two miles takes us to Pendlebury (two hundred and ninety feet above sea-level); further on is Top-o'th'-Hill, close to Crosby Hillock at Irlams-o'th'-Height; and Smith's Hillock at Halshaw Moor (three hundred and fifty feet above the sea-level.

On the opposite side of the river, Fairy Hill is situated one and a half miles north-west from the Manchester Cathedral; Castle Hill, two and a half miles north-west by west from the same spot, and half a mile east of the Roman road leading to Bury. Rainsough Hill Camp (two hundred feet above the sea-level) is a quarter of a mile east from Agecroft Bridge. It is oval in shape, measuring about five hundred feet from east to west. We next reach Molyneux Brow and Ringley Brow, both three hundred feet above the sea-level.

Additional gleanings from the ordnance maps in this district, are: Cuckstool Fold and Cobb Hillock, in the village of Whitefield; Kirkham, half a mile north, and Rooden Lane, three-quarters of a mile east of Prestwich Church.

BOLTON-LE-MOORS.

Amongst the numerous defensive sites in the hundred of Salford that of Bolton-le-Moors occupies an important place, and was clearly appreciated and seized upon by early settlers. An excellent idea of this stronghold is given in the frontispiece to Scholes's *History of Bolton*, a reproduction of an old print, showing the church and schools on the top of this little plateau, from which the ground falls precipitously on the north and east within a bend of the river Croal. Additional strength is given to

the site by the proximity of the river Tonge and the Bradshaw brook. The three streams unite at a spot about a mile to the south-east of the town.

The defensive site of Bolton-le-Moors, indeed, singularly resembles many of the old fortified towns of France and Italy, where the ground in the vicinity of the fortress is broken up by various streams, which must be crossed by those attacking the place.

Not merely was the old part of the town on a defensive site, but in this wild moorland district the principal old halls were so built, such as Little Bolton Hall, standing on the edge of a precipitous cliff on the river Tonge, half a mile north-east from the market cross. Again, Hall-i'th'-Wood is similarly situated on the same river one and a half miles north of Bolton Church; Haulgh is Hall on the river Croal, and Bradshaw Hall on Bradshaw brook.

"Site of tumulus" is marked on the map one-eighth of a mile north of Haulgh Hall, about one hundred yards from the river Croal.

Boggart Hole is in Hall-i'th'-Wood Clough.

THE MARKET CROSS.—The four principal old streets—Churchgate, Deansgate, Bradshawgate, and Bank Street—meet at the historic market cross, which is distant fully two hundred yards west of the church. These streets are nearly square with the points of the compass. Churchgate runs east from the cross, Deansgate west, Bank Street north, and Bradshawgate south. On approaching the cross Deansgate and Churchgate widen out, and here in a space about one hundred and forty yards long and twenty yards wide the markets were held.

The 1847 ordnance map records the position of the Butter Market and the Fish Market, and the spot in Churchgate opposite the Swan Hotel, about twenty yards

west of the cross in the middle of the Fish Market, where the Earl of Derby was beheaded in the year 1651 for the prominent part which he took against Parliament in the Civil War. This tragical and pathetic event occupies an important place in Lancashire and, indeed, in English history.

The following interesting notes are to be found in Dr. Halley's *Puritanism and Nonconformity*:—

> The earl (Earl of Derby) was confined in Chester Castle, and soon brought to trial on a charge of high treason, in contravention of an Act passed only a few weeks before, "prohibiting correspondence with Charles Stuart." A court-martial was convened at Chester, under authority of a commission from Cromwell . . . he was pronounced guilty, and sentenced to be put to death by severing his head from his body in the market place of the town of Bolton, upon Wednesday, the 15th of this instant, October, about the hour of one on the clock of the same day. On the Sunday before his execution the earl (Earl of Derby) wrote his tender and loving letters to his countess and to their two daughters. On Wednesday, October 15, he was conducted to Bolton by a guard of eighty horse and sixty foot soldiers. On the way he passionately entreated to be allowed to visit the grave of his friend, Sir Thomas Tyldesley, but his entreaty could not be granted. On his arrival at Bolton, the scaffold was ready for him at the market cross, erected (it is said) with timber brought from Lathom House. . . . . Kneeling down he offered his last prayer, "The Lord of Heaven bless my wife and poor children! The Lord bless the people and my good king!" He calmly laid his head upon the block, and gave the death signal by raising his hand. By one stroke his head was severed from his body.

Mr. Scholes tells us that the cross was erected in 1482, and, if so, must, therefore, have been built in the Perpendicular style of architecture, and may have been an elaborate and beautiful structure. It was taken down in 1776 as an obstruction to the markets, but, from the various existing views of it, an Elizabethan or Jacobean cross must have succeeded that erected in the fifteenth century. During the Cromwellian epoch, until the year 1662, when the Act of Uniformity was passed, the appointed lecturer preached from the steps of the cross,

where banns of marriage were published by the magistrates on market days. John Wesley recalls in his diary the turbulent scenes which occurred here in the year 1748, when he also preached at this spot.

THE PRE-NORMAN CROSS.—This ancient cross stands at the present time in a corner of the parish church, with one of its faces close to the wall, near the north porch. The church was rebuilt about the year 1870. The cross was discovered during the demolition of the previous church in 1866, under the tower. It was placed in this position by Canon Atkinson, a former vicar, the most interesting sculptures being thus quite hidden from view. A suggestion has been recently made to the authorities that this venerable monument should be moved into the open space near the south porch, where every side of it could be easily seen, and where it would be in no sense an obstruction to the congregation.*

The cross bears no inscription; it may thus have been monumental, or it may have been a cemetery and preaching cross, placed in the burial-ground before any church was erected on the site. It may, indeed, have been the market cross. The old sexton informs me that the cross is let six inches into the new base-stone, and that the portion so let in was quite plain.

The structure is somewhat time-worn, and is complete, except that the upper limb of the cross is missing. Before this mutilation the height of the cross above the top of the step was six feet three inches. At the base on plan the measurements are fifteen inches by eight inches, and at the top of the shaft eight and a half by six inches.

* The pre-Norman cross, similarly found in the rebuilding of the Leeds Parish Church, has been placed there in a similar open space, where its remarkable sculptures can be properly studied.

PRE-NORMAN CROSS.

PARISH CHURCH, BOLTON-LE-MOORS.

The total width across the arms is eighteen inches. The general effect is similar in several respects to one of the Whalley churchyard crosses (Cross B), illustrated in a previous chapter, and, like this example, shows an exuberant fancy, the ornamentation being varied on the different faces in the most imaginative way, and it is, indeed, not improbable that they were both sculptured by the same artist, for Whalley is only seventeen miles distant from Bolton. It is to be noted, however, that the Whalley example is more highly and delicately finished than that at Bolton, where the carving is rather rough and coarse. In the absence of definite historical evidence, it is hazardous to offer conjectures as to the probable date of crosses of this character.

In the tower of the church, on the first floor, is a small museum of other old stones and some carved woodwork, also found during the rebuilding. Amongst these remains is the head of a pre-Norman cross of a type common in Cornwall, in Scotland, and elsewhere—a small Greek cross, surmounting a fairly lofty shaft, which may or may not be ornamented by sculptures. In this case the cross measures one foot eleven inches across the arms, it is six inches thick, the central boss is seven inches in diameter; a small mould is worked on the edges of the cross, and a delicate circular ring, two inches in diameter, connects the arms. The total height may have been seven or eight feet, or possibly more.

A portion of the shaft of another cross, of uncertain date, is also in this museum; it is two feet ten inches in height. The bottom portion (sixteen inches high) is rectangular on plan, measuring twelve by nine inches. It is worked at this height into an oval by rough broaches, and measures ten and a half by eight and three-quarter inches. The shaft tapers upwards, and is circular on

plan at the top, seven and three-quarter inches in diameter. Another stone which is probably of pre-Norman date and may have been a portion of a tympanum of a doorway, has on it a carving of a dragon, with zig-zag name and tail twisted between the legs and bent over the back. Another curious stone, measuring eighteen by fifteen inches, is commonly supposed to represent Adam and Eve. Various scenes are here combined in one picture. The two figures stand face to face within a semi-circular arch. The date is probably subsequent to the Norman invasion. Besides these stones are portions of mediæval gravestones, a stone coffin, and a recumbent female figure, under a canopy, in the dress of an abbess, supposed to be of fourteenth century date.

In the following books the Bishop of Bristol (the Right Reverend G. F. Browne) gives an interesting picture of some of the ecclesiastical and other controversies which went on in England in pre-Norman times, and, before the Pope's authority had become supreme, as it was in later centuries, and incidentally describes with much intimate knowledge the great crosses at Bewcastle, Ruthwell, Hexham, and elsewhere, which were erected during that period of English history: *The Church in these Islands before Augustine; Augustine and his Companions; The Conversion of the Heptarchy; Theodore and Wilfrith; Lessons from Early English Church History.* These books have all been published by the Society for the Promotion of Christian Knowledge.

In an appendix to the *Conversion of the Heptarchy*, Bishop Browne writes: "In the five years of my tenure of the Disney Professorship of Archæology in Cambridge, I lectured on the early sculptured stones of England, Scotland, Ireland, Cornwall, Wales, and Man. If I

ever have time to publish the five courses of lectures, it will be seen what a very large amount of this early interlacing ornament we have in our islands, and how unique it is. The longer and further I press such investigations as I can make, the more I seem to see that we must look to a Greek origin for the outburst of this beautiful work in its highest perfection in Northumbrian England." Linguistically this view is supported by the late Canon Isaac Taylor in his book *Greeks and Goths.*

Other valuable contributions to this subject and to the history of the ornament to be found on our early sculptured stones are, *Celtic Art in Pagan and Christian Times*, by J. Romilly Allen, F.S.A. (Methuen & Co.); and the *Monumental History of the British Church*, by the same author, published by the Society for the Promotion of Christian Knowledge.

The passion for inland watering-places which characterised the seventeenth century spread even to Bolton, for Spaw Lane, at the end of Deansgate, led to Spaw Fields and the Pump Houses.

The district of Halliwell, two miles north-west from Bolton Market Place, is so named from a holy well which once existed here. The words "Holy Well," in Ancient Gothic letters on the 1848 ordnance map, record its exact position, which was in the middle of the Halliwell Bleachworks. I have not so far been able to collect any traditions connected with it. The site is, however, only half a mile south-west from Smithell's Hall, a very ancient building with a domestic chapel, full of ghostly and other history.

The words "Manor House" occur on the map half a mile north-east from the village of Horwich.

AFFETSIDE CROSS.—The little hamlet of Affetside is distant three and a half miles in a north-easterly direction from the market place of Bolton-le-Moors. The ordnance map shows it to be on the Roman road which passed out of Manchester through Prestwich, Radcliffe, and Blackburn, and here termed Watling Street. The word "cross" on the map denotes that the ordnance surveyors in 1844 had come to the conclusion that the structure was a cross. The first sight of it gives one the impression that it may have been a Roman milestone, for it singularly resembles that in the British Museum standing just outside the Anglo-Saxon room; but on minute examination I came to the conclusion that it must have been erected in Jacobean or early Georgian times, as a small market cross of a type similar to that at Garstang and elsewhere.

The necessity for a market cross in a wild situation like this amongst the moors, nine hundred feet above the sea, is not apparent. The village may have been of some importance in past times, but, at present, it only consists of some straggling, poverty-stricken cottages. The street is widened out to twelve yards where the cross stands. The structure consists of a tapering circular pillar, four feet eight inches in height, and eight and a quarter inches at the top under the neck moulding. At the bottom it is ten inches in diameter, and breaks by rough broaches into a square twelve by twelve inches. The pillar looks older than the flight of the three circular steps on which it stands. The bottom of these steps is six feet in diameter. The top of the shaft is socketted for a missing ball, or cross, or both. The site commands an extensive view and is on the highest ground in the district.

A visit was paid on 4th August, 1900, by members of the Lancashire and Cheshire Antiquarian Society to the

site. Mr. Hardcastle, of Bradshaw Hall, explained what he knew of the history of the cross. His belief was that it had been a market cross, a fair or market having formerly been held in the adjoining field, then unfenced from the road. Some ten or fifteen years ago the cross, then in a very dilapidated state, was pulled down in the night time by some people in the vain expectation of finding treasure beneath. Afterwards, Mr. Hardcastle and the lord of the manor (Mr. Isherwood) joined in re-erecting and putting it into thorough repair, a work which involved the replacement of two blocks of stone by two new ones and the use of iron clamps. They could not find any head belonging to the cross, or hear that it ever had one.

THE TURTON CROSS.—The words "pedestal of stone cross" occur on the ordnance map, in the little village of Turton, about four miles north of Bolton-le-Moors, near the old grammar school, and about half a mile north of Turton Tower, at a height of about six hundred feet above sea-level. The stocks are shown on the map near the cross.

On the moors the words "Druidical circle" appear on the map one mile west of the cross, at a height of one thousand and seventy-five feet above the sea-level, "Tumulus" at the same distance to the east of it, and "Windy Harbour" about half a mile to the north-east.

The vicar of Turton gives the following particulars about the cross:—

I have been trying to gain more information about the cross in Chapeltown [Turton and Chapeltown are the same] than I already possessed, but have failed. However, I remember very well, in the open space in front of Chetham Arms, a stone pedestal on two steps with stocks by its side, and a large sycamore tree overshadowing all. The pedestal was never surmounted by a cross, but a sundial, which had long ceased to

exist. This was removed by Mr. Kay, the then owner of Turton Tower estate, about 1845 or 1846, and placed in his grounds, where it now stands, or did a little time since. What became of the stocks I never knew. . . There was a Druidical circle on Chetham Close in fair order when I came to Turton (1879), now it has gone like many other interesting objects. I did all I could to persuade Mr. Kay, jun., to rail it round, and as far as possible set up the stones which were lying about. . . . .

THE "TOWNE-CROSSES," HEATON.—The township of Heaton, or a portion of it, appears to have been defined by crosses, which were in existence in the year 1583. An ancestor of Sir Francis Anderton, of Lydiate (we are told by the Rev. T. E. Gibson in *Lydiate Hall and its Associations*) had purchased land in Heaton in that year in the possession of Katherine Heton and others. The indorsement of the deed certifies that "Bernard Anderton had seven days after entered on the land lying next to the 'Town-Crosses,' and claimed the same for Christopher Anderton."

BROMLEY CROSS.—These words occur on the map about two and a quarter miles north-north-east from Bolton-le-Moors Market Place on the 1844 ordnance map. The railway was not then made. There is now a station (Bromley Cross) near this spot, and the words may record the site of an ancient cross.

KERSHAW CROSS.—The words, "pedestal of stone cross" (the pedestal is *in situ*, or was so recently), occur on the map three and a quarter miles north-north-east from Bolton Parish Church.

The words, "windy harbour" occur on the map on the Roman road from Manchester one mile in a north-westerly direction from Turton Tower, at a height of about six hundred and fifty feet above the sea-level. These words

occur again on the map about two and a half miles north-east by north of Bolton Market Place, at a height of six hundred and eight feet above the sea-level.

The word "hillock" is shown on the map, filling a deep loop of the river Tonge, one-eighth of a mile north of Hall-i'th'-Wood.

The estimation in which the ancient market crosses of the country were once held is shown by the fact that at a spot two miles east from Bolton Market Place, on the road between Bolton and Bury, the distance is marked to Bolton Cross and to Bury Cross.

THE PILGRIM'S CROSS.—The words "Whowell Cross or Pilgrim's Cross" in Ancient Gothic letters occur on the map, at a height of one thousand two hundred and nine feet above the sea-level, on Holcombe Moor, at a spot distant about one and a half miles north-west from the town of Ramsbottom. The cross with its shaft long ago disappeared, but the venerable and massive stone-base was an object of pilgrimage to many antiquaries and others until the month of August, 1901, when it was wantonly destroyed by some unknown persons. This stone measured about three feet across the top, and was socketted for a large and lofty cross.

This ancient monument stood on the easterly side of an old footpath leading over these desolate moors. The path runs nearly due north and south. The site is on the south-easterly slope of Bull Hill, which rises to a height of one thousand three hundred and seventy-one feet above the sea-level. Mr. W. Harrison, in reporting the outrage to the Lancashire and Cheshire Antiquarian Society, writes: "In very early documents allusions are made to this cross. Pilgrim Crosse-slack, in the forest of Tottington, is mentioned in a charter, dated from Ightenhill, in 22

Henry II., A.D. 1176, and Pilgrim Cross-shaw is referred to in the charter of 1225, by which Roger de Montbegon granted land hard by to Monk Bretton Priory. Baines also refers to the cross as one where the pilgrims reposed themselves and offered up their religious services in the pilgrimages to Whalley. It was, likewise, no doubt, very useful as a landmark, enabling travellers to keep the track which passes close by along the top of the moor."

Whittaker in his *History of Whalley* writes: "By a fourth charter *(ibid)* the same grantor conveys to the said priory [Monk Bretton, in the county of York] three acres of meadow near Pilgrim-crosse-charche, which seems to countenance an opinion that this was a resting-place of the pilgrims (see under Whalley Abbey), and that they had a chapel here for their devotions. Where this cross and chapel stood, or whether the latter were on the site of the present chapel of Holcombe, I am not informed."

Much both of a romantic and of an historical character relating to this district is to be found in a charming little book entitled *Holcombe Long Ago*, by the Rev. H. Dowsett, rector of Holcombe, embodying the researches referred to in a previous chapter.

BUTTER CROSS.—These words occur on the map one mile north-east by north from Rivington, in Dean Head Lane, in moorland country, six hundred and eighty-seven feet above sea-level, about one and a half miles south of the middle of Anglezark Moor.

The centre of Anglezark Moor is about one thousand feet above sea-level. Half a mile to the south-east of it is Standing Stones Hill.

The names on these moors, as in similar cases, are fanciful. Thus we have "Moses Cockers," "Sweetloves," "Old Isaac's," and "Old Kate's."

Half a mile south-east from Blackrod Church, formerly a pre-Reformation chapel dedicated to S. Catherine, is "Castle Croft," in Ancient Gothic letters. The stocks are marked a few yards north-west of the church, and on the easterly side of the village is Hanging Ditch. A careful local investigation might clear off some of the problems attaching to the name "Hanging Ditch," the encircling trench which formed part of the fortification of the Manchester baron's yard.

The word "Great Stone" appears on the map by the side of a road one-third of a mile south-west from the village of Chequerbent. This village is on the hypothetical Roman road shown on Mr. Harrison's archæological map from Pendlebury to Blackrod. The stone adjoins Lee Common. Barn Hillock is one and a half miles north-west by west from Hulton Hall, and Smithy Hillock one and three-quarter miles north-north-east from the same spot.

CORRIGENDA.

Page 119. Instead of "Ashton-under-Lyne was originally a part of the large Manchester parish, and is distant five miles east from the heart of the city," read: "The ancient town of Ashton-under-Lyne is distant only five miles in an easterly direction from the heart of the city of Manchester."

Page 133, last paragraph. Instead of "The former course," &c., read: "The former course of the river is not completely shown on any plan which I have seen, but an inspection of the site leads irresistibly to the conclusion that at one time the river swept round at the base of the cliff shown on the accompanying illustration. This cliff begins its rise from the plain at a point about three-quarters of a mile north of Bolton Street, and continues its gradual ascent until it reaches to the full height of the castle plateau at a point nearly opposite to the parish church."

Page 140, nine lines from foot. Instead of "south-east" read "north-west."

ON THE CHARTERS, DOCUMENTS, AND INSIGNIA RELATING TO THE ANCIENT MANOR AND BOROUGH OF MACCLESFIELD.

BY W. H. CLARKE, L.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

BEFORE proceeding to describe the various charters, documents, and insignia relating to this ancient borough it will be necessary to give a brief account of its history, especially in relation to these documents. The earliest mention we have of this township is contained in the Domesday Survey of 1086, in which is stated that the Saxon earl, Edwin, held it, and most probably held a court here. It also states that this Saxon earl was succeeded by the Norman Earl of Chester, and he and his successors held this manor until the earldom became extinct in 1237. It is to one of these Norman Earls of Chester that the town of Macclesfield owes its first charter. About the year 1220, Randle Blundeville, probably the third earl, is stated to have made the town into a free borough, and ordered it to consist of one hundred and twenty burgesses, each of whom should pay 12d. per annum to the earl. Of this

charter there is no trace, as far as I can gather, but Ormerod, in his *History of Cheshire*, prints a charter in connection with this matter. After the extinction of the Norman Earls of Chester in 1237, the manor passed to the Crown as one of its appendages, and it was held by the Princes of Wales or reigning sovereigns, as Earls of Chester, who frequently granted it to their consorts, or devised it at times to various families in the country. As an instance of this I may mention that in 1270 it was granted to Eleanor, the wife of Edward, Prince of Wales, who afterwards became queen, and who, eight years later, in 1278, founded our parish church. In subsequent years it passed through various hands. The manor belonged to Joan, widow of the Black Prince, in 1382; in 1386 it was granted by the latter's executors to Dame Joan de Mohun, and this was confirmed to her for her life by King Richard II. This latter lady exchanged it in 1389 with Queen Ann, consort of Richard II., for an annuity of £100. On February 28th, 1437, a lease of the manor of Macclesfield was granted to Sir Thomas Stanley and John Savage, Esq., for twelve years from the death of Queen Catherine, widow of Henry V. About 1650, after the execution of Charles I., it was again sold, one portion to Peter Brereton and James Winstanley, and the other to Mr. Samuel Rowe, of Macclesfield; but at the Restoration these sales became void. Ultimately, the profits of the manor were leased to various persons, and in 1796, when the commons and waste lands were enclosed, the manorial rights of the Crown, except as to coal mines, were extinguished.

Such is the brief history of the manor of Macclesfield from the earliest known times, that is, the Domesday Survey, but we are more particularly interested with the charters, documents, &c., connected with these many

changes, and it is with those I now intend to deal. I am sorry to say that, unfortunately, many of our records are missing, but we are fortunate in possessing a charter dated May 29th, 1261, and granted by Edward, son of King Henry III., Earl of Chester, and afterwards Edward I., to his burgesses of Macclesfield. The seal is destroyed, but otherwise it is in very good condition. I will not repeat it *verbatim*, but will describe a few of its salient points. After the usual greeting, it goes on to say that the king has conceded and confirmed to the burgesses of Macclesfield that the town shall be a free borough, that the burgesses shall have a guild hall with all its liberties and free customs. Also that they shall be free throughout Cheshire, by water and land, of toll, passage, *i.e.*, money paid for leave to pass through certain liberties or over rivers and streams, pontage (tolls over bridges), stallage (money paid for leave to erect stalls and booths in any market town), and lastage, *i.e.*, a toll paid for goods sold by the last or load, and all other customs, except salt, in the "Wyches." The reason of this last proviso is that the tolls on salt brought from Nantwich, Northwich, &c., were a source of revenue to the Earls of Chester. They also had the privilege of pasture and "housebote and haybote in our forest," that is, in the forest of Macclesfield. The terms haybote and housebote refer to wood for making fences or hedges and houses, but this privilege is followed by an important proviso, in those days, which runs as follows: "Saving to us our pannage when there are acorns," that is, reserving the acorns for pigs, which were then kept in large quantities in charge of a swineherd. I may here mention Earwaker states that as late as the middle of the eighteenth century a "pig catcher" was an officer annually appointed by the corporation. The charter then proceeds to grant certain

legal privileges and to enjoin the burgesses to have their corn ground at the king's mills to the twentieth grain, and allows them to elect their own provost or mayor by the assent and consent of the earl or his bailiffs. They could hold their burgages and lands belonging to their burgages for 12d. per year, and sell or exchange the same to all except religious houses. This burgage tenure was a feudal service or tenure of houses or tenements by which the owner held it of the king or lord of the manor by a certain annual pecuniary rent or other service relating to trade, &c., but having no relation to military service. In this instance the rent was 12d. per year, but the king reserved to himself the liberty of his bakehouse in the town. The charter is signed by the Lords Erard de Valery Fulk de Orreby, then "our justiciary of Chester," Ralph Bassett, Thomas de Orreby, then "our escheator of Cheshire," Hugh de Clifford, John de Brereton, "keeper of our wardrobe," Thomas de Boulton, and others. It is signed at Guildford, on the 29th of May, "in the forty-fifth year of the reign of our Lord the King our father 1261." Such are the most important and interesting points in this charter, which throws a very vivid light upon the social conditions of the people of those far-off days, nearly six hundred and forty-three years ago. Our existence as a borough dates from that time, and we claim to be one of the oldest boroughs in the kingdom. The privileges contained in this charter were ratified and confirmed by subsequent sovereigns. We find that Edward III. issued a charter, dated at York on February 26th, 1334, for this purpose, and he was followed by Richard II. on November 14th in 1389 at Westminster, but this document is, I regret to say, missing. Also at Westminster by Edward IV. on January 30th, 1465, and by Elizabeth at Westminster on May 13th, 1564.

In 1595, Elizabeth issued Letters Patent confirming the previous privileges and adding many new ones, but as my object is not to enter into our municipal history, but only to describe the documents, I will only mention that one of her injunctions was that we should have an officer attached to the body corporate, known as the sergeant of mace, who should be yearly elected by the mayor for the time being, and should attend upon him and execute all processes, &c. He was to carry a golden or silver mace, with the arms of the kingdom engraved thereon, before the mayor for the time being.

This second charter of Queen Elizabeth was confirmed by James I. on May 31st, 1606, and by Charles II. in 1666, with a few modifications. An entirely new charter of privileges was granted to the town by Charles II. on November 19th, 1684, and these continued in existence until the Municipal Reform Act, 1835.

Our list of mayors commences in 1330, but the list is incomplete owing to the loss or destruction of the old rolls of the mayor's court and the mayor's accounts prior to the eighteenth century. These court rolls were examined fifty or sixty years ago, but they have, I believe, disappeared. The records, too, are very few in number, and I shall, unfortunately, be unable to show you any earlier than those dated October, 1618. Earwaker states in his *History of East Cheshire* that "early in the last century they were very numerous and important, amongst them being a number of rolls of the mayor's court going back to the reign of Richard II., in 1377. The earliest mayor's accounts, full of quaint and curious information, went back to 1560," but none of these are now in the possession of the corporation. This is, indeed, a lamentable fact, as such records are not only of the utmost value to us locally, but they have almost a national

interest. The earliest volume of mayor's accounts we possess dates from October, 1708, and the earliest minute book begins in October, 1619, and the first "book of orders" is dated from 1734. No doubt one reason why the "book of orders" is missing is, that they were kept in loose paper books and not bound, hence they were easily lost or stolen. This book gave us a very curious insight into the customs of those days. In 1513, it described the death of the mayor of that year, Christopher Savage, esquire, at Flodden Field, together with many of the burgesses. Ormerod states in his *History of Cheshire* that the townsmen suffered so severely in that battle that there were insufficient substantial burgesses of age left to form a corporation. It is alleged that the Earl of Derby usurped its liberties, and this led to a petition being presented by the burgesses to Henry VIII. for a confirmation of their charter. This was not successful, but, after presenting several other petitions, Elizabeth ultimately granted them one.

In October, 1579, the sergeant-at-mace had given him "one pair of iron bolts and one iron to burn rogues with." We have somewhat progressed since then in our treatment of rogues. About the same time it was agreed by the corporation that the mayor should have "two bowes and two sheaffes of arrows," and there are many references to the "Buttes," where the burgesses practised archery. One of the most interesting of the old documents contained "orders" for the good behaviour of the town which will repay perusing. They were issued by Thomas Stepleton, mayor in 1602, and give us a very quaint insight into the customs of those days. We are told, for instance, that any burgess found walking the streets after ten o'clock in the evening would be liable to punishment, except those who had lawful business, or

were "men of credit." "That if there be any gaminge" in any man's house, the "good man" was to be punished, and also several items regulating attorneys' fees, &c.

An order was also passed in 1604 under the mayoralty of William Rowe, confining the trade of the town to the burgesses, and prohibiting any so-called "foreigner" from settling therein, unless "he or they" be formally approved and accepted by the mayor, aldermen, and a certain number of burgesses, under peril of imprisonment, and I find in the orders of 1649 that this order was emphasised. It is stated that not only would the householder be fined for entertaining or letting a house to a "foreigner," but that any mayor who neglected executing the order would himself incur and pay the penalty. There are many references to the admission of strangers into the town, especially in regard to trade purposes; indeed, so rigid were these regulations, that I find that in 1664 the unusual course was adopted of appointing two persons in every street to enquire and take account of all strangers residing therein. This was especially directed in the trades of "twisting of silk, gimping, and making of buttons," the last one, I may add, being an important industry in those days. In the old "orders" we were told how the plague visited Macclesfield, and of the fearful mortality which ensued, over seventy deaths occurring between September 3rd and October 3rd, 1603. Another item in the mayor's accounts inform us that in 1658 four shillings was paid "for two quarts of sack at Alderman Davy's when the Lord Protector (Richard Cromwell) was proclaimed," and also in 1659 an item runs: "paid to John Hunter, of Knutsford, for bringing news to Macclesfield when the Scots were routed at Preston, being the payment promised by some Aldermen, 5s." At the Restoration the rejoicings were very great,

and no doubt much enjoyed. At that time, 1660, the corporation were lavish in their expenditure, and the following are a few of the items: "given to the souldiers that shot when the King was proclaimed, 5s.;" "given to the Ringers at that time, 3s.;" "paid for powder when the King was proclaymed, 10s.;" "for powder and match, 7s. 4d.;" "for Bisketts, tobacco, and pipes, when the King was proclaimed, 4s. 4d." And last, but I think the most quaint, "spent on the commissioners when they came to proclaim the King, and at several other times when they came to the town, and one day of proclaiming the King when the commissioners were not here, £4. 2s. 11d." At the coronation of Charles II. the expenditure was on even a more lavish scale, and included payments to trumpeters, ringers, fireworks, powder, and one hundred and six gallons of beer. In 1682, the corporation presented an address to King Charles II. The occasion was the discovery of a plot in which the then Earl of Shaftesbury was implicated, and commenced with the rather unusual words "Dread Sovereign."

There are many entries as to the appointment of the watch, the regulation of trade, appointment of freemen, and even of the cleansing of the streets, for an order was made in 1678 enjoining all burgesses to cleanse the street "over against their respective houses to the middle of the street once a week," and as to the watch, anyone who, being appointed as watchman, was negligent of his duties, was ordered to be set in the stocks for three hours. Such are a very few of the quaint and interesting items in the Book of Orders.

The insignia of the corporation consists of two maces, a mayor's chain, and a town seal. According to Jewett and Hope, the great mace is of silver gilt, and measures forty-three and a half inches. It is surmounted by an

open arched crown, and has on the flat plate at the top, under the arches of the crown, the royal arms within the garter, and crowned with supporters and motto. Round the mace head, in four compartments divided by caryatides or figures of women dressed in long robes, are respectively, a rose, thistle, *fleur-de-lis*, and harp, each crowned, and between the initials of William and Mary a symbol. The chased shaft is divided into lengths by three knops. The uppermost length has on one side a representation of the borough seal, and on the other, the inscription: "Ex dono Johannis Legh, de Furnivalls Inne, London, Generosi, John Houghton, Gent., Mayor, 1693." On the bottom of all, at the base, are traces of an almost defaced inscription, of which can only be read, "Ricardi Pepper Arden . . . Recorditoris, A.D. 1779." The hall-marks are: London, 1693-4, and the maker is probably Anthony Holme.

The lesser and older mace probably dates from the reign of James I., who granted a charter in 1606. It is twenty-five inches long, and is of silver. It has a plain staff, with fine encircling bands, and a hemispherical head, with an engraving of the royal arms of James I., crowned, and between the letters I.R. on the flat plate at the top. The circle is composed of *fleur-de-lis*, and round the head are what are supposed to be roses and crowns. It possesses no hall-marks.

The mayor's chain is of gold, and is composed of a number of massive square links, from the central one of which depends the badge, a medallion, on which is placed the borough arms, encircled by the motto, "nec virtus nec copia desunt."

For much of the information contained in this paper I am indebted to the various histories of Cheshire, to the documents and charters which I have examined by the

permission of the mayor, and the kindly help given me by the town clerk, the assistant town clerk, and the assistant borough comptroller.

If this account should induce the municipal authorities to have these old documents thoroughly investigated, I shall be amply repaid for the time I have spent in examining them.

NOTES ON ANTIQUARIAN DISCOVERIES IN MACCLESFIELD.

BY WALTER ASTON, F.R.I.B.A.

IN 1893, when Fence Avenue was made, the old "Fence House" was taken down. This was a square, stone-built, and ivy-mantled dwelling occupied by the late Mr. Charles Brocklehurst. It was originally owned by William Blagg, who was mayor of Macclesfield (1737-8), and the year of its erection—1728—was recorded on the beautiful Georgian spout-heads of the period.

The remains of a much older house were discovered under the walls, probably dating back to the sixteenth century, and, judging from the fragments of a doorway, this must have been a dwelling of quite exceptional interest. In the park adjoining the house a causeway was found similar to the one at Lyme.

The earliest mention of the "Fence" is in 1670, when some sittings in the church of Macclesfield were stated to have belonged to "Ralph Holland of the Fence, in Hurdsfield, yeoman, deceased, and Philip Holland, minister, son of the aforesaid Ralph Holland, likewise deceased."

In an internal wall, built in as rubble, was a broken slab of alabaster, one and a quarter inches thick. On this slab is depicted an emblem of the Trinity. This is in the

form of a wheel six and a quarter inches in diameter, on the circular hub of which are the words, "Deus omnipotens." At even distances are three other circles on the rim. The one at the top has the word "Pater," while the remaining two have "Filius" and "Spiritus Sanctus" respectively, a very well-known composition of the Trinity.

Emblems which survived the Reformation met with destruction by the Puritans. This stone, though not destroyed, has evidently met with rough usage, either at the earlier or later period. It is now the property of F. D. Brocklehurst, Esq., J.P.

In 1897 one of the older landmarks of Macclesfield was removed. This was a tiny building in the market place known as "the old snuff shop." When this was taken down a mediæval wall was revealed, consisting of a framework of oak beams, filled with "wattle and daub." In this wall is a fourteenth century window, divided into two lights by a centre mullion. The openings are arched and cusped, and the spandril above is also cusped. The tracery and framework are all of oak. When found the openings were filled in with "wattle and daub." The window had evidently been blocked up before the building of the little shop, which had been reared up against the older structure, and had thus preserved this precious fragment of mediæval Macclesfield. When the adjoining premises were rebuilt all but this party-wall was swept away. During some alterations in this property human remains were discovered, showing that interments had taken place in what must have been the inside of the building. Within a few feet of the window just described is the Angel Inn, and it is a matter of tradition and belief among the Roman Catholics in Macclesfield that this was the site of the original "Priest's House." Should this

be the case there is every reason to conclude that this was an oratory window. It faces the east and overlooks the parish church. The oak framework and the window have been carefully preserved *in situ*.

During excavations in the market place, in 1878, the remains of the jambs of the west doorway of the ancient guild hall, with a portion of the foundations on either side, were laid bare, and the mouldings of a gateway or double entrance were discovered. They occupied a site on a line with the north side of the churchyard. A portion of the moulding found is now in the West Park.

The guild hall, called in many ancient records the "Mote Hall," would probably be erected soon after the incorporation of the town in 1261, and it was there that the mayor and capital burgesses held their meetings, and where the mayor's courts were held every three weeks.

Hard by this oratory was that embattled and crenellated mansion built by John de Macclesfield about the year 1402, which was fully described by Dr. Renaud in the *Transactions* of this Society, vol. xx. The old market cross has been removed to the West Park.

These mementoes of bygone days help us to picture Macclesfield in 1745, when, on the 1st of December, the townspeople were greatly alarmed by the passing of Prince Charles Edward Stuart's army on their march to Derby. The officers took up quarters at a house in Jordangate, afterwards called the Palace Inn, but now the George Hotel, and the prince stayed at the house of Sir Peter Davenport in Back Street (now King Edward Street), afterwards purchased for the Free Grammar School. Within a week's time this army again passed through the town on that memorable retreat, terminating

in the following year in the battle of Culloden. In a letter written by Mr. John Stafford, a well-known attorney, who resided in a house, afterwards called Cumberland House, in Jordangate, we are told: "The Duke of Cumberland did me the honour of taking up his quarters at my house, where he lay three nights, and yesterday morning (13th December) went for Wigan." This attorney was in a terrible flutter at the time these stirring events took place, but his letters, recorded by Earwaker, give a wonderfully vivid account of this episode.

In 1882, while alterations were being made in Macclesfield Parish Church, the east jamb of the original south doorway was discovered. The consecration cross was very clearly defined; this dates from the year 1278, when the church was first dedicated by Skoonaw, bishop of St. Asaph. This doorway has been recently restored by the late Sir Arthur Blomfield. At this time the south aisle wall, to the extent of one bay, remained between the south doorway and the Legh Chapel. This wall was of Alderley ashlar and had a plinth; and there was the broken bond in the tower wall, with the rubble-stone lining, showing how far this aisle had extended beyond the doorway. The same indication was revealed in the case of the north aisle. The tower stood detached on three sides in the usual way; there was a square-headed two-light window, similar to the windows in the south aisle at Prestbury; the masons' marks were identical, hence the same masons worked in both churches. Adjoining the Legh Chapel was the original roof-truss of the side aisle, with the wall-plates cut away, showing that the chapel had been extended in width at a later date than the building of the south aisle. That the Legh Chapel was originally limited to the width of

the south aisle is evidenced by the west window of the Savage Chapel having been blocked up. The south jamb of this window was exposed to view outside; the remainder was covered by the Legh Chapel extension in 1620. This window is now clearly shown in the Savage Chapel.

Under the piers and floor of the church, built in 1740, there were fragments of the former nave piers and arches, and in the roof some of the original timbers had been re-used.

In a stable at the "White Bear," in King Edward Street, is a massive beam of oak, presumably removed from the parish church in 1740. It has a double splay on the soffit, stop-chamfered, and a geometrical boss in the centre. It has a camber of about fourteen inches, and it corresponds in length to the width of the original nave of the church, so it was probably the tie-beam of one of the nave principals.

It is a matter of some regret that these fragments could not have been reinstated; the responds of the old nave would have given the exact width and height of piers, and the radius of the arches would have been determined by the arch-stones and by the remaining bay of the south aisle.

The oriel window, over the west door of the Savage Chapel, is more collegiate than ecclesiastical in design. On examining the window inside, it will be seen that the masons have left a bed-mould in the centre of each opening to receive a mullion; thus it was originally intended to have narrow two-light windows on the three sides—making six lights in all—instead of the three which now appear, when, no doubt, the openings would have had pointed heads, in unison with the other windows.

The remains of a primitive stone coffin were discovered, with the characteristic axework peculiar to the period. The further discovery of the remains of the Saxon cross bears out the late Mr. Earwaker's contention as to the existence of a church in Macclesfield in Saxon times.

TITHE CORN BOOK FOR MANCHESTER, &c., 1584.

BY H. T. CROFTON.

THE Dean and Canons of Manchester have in their muniment room a document of considerable interest naming fields, several being still open and cultivated in doles or strips, in and near Manchester, Salford, and Hulme, and the crops they bore in the year 1584. The "book" also extended to Newton and Cleyden (the north-east part of Ancoats), but those parts of the book appear in the *History of Newton Chapelry* for the Chetham Society.

The account shows how the tithe surveyor, on behalf of the warden and fellows of the College of Christ in Manchester, went round those townships, the tithes of which were not leased out to third parties, but were retained in hand, and how in each field the surveyor noted the number of toshers or tosses, sheaves, hattocks, and riders of wheat, barley, oats, beans, and pease, noting them by scores, and reckoning 120, or $\frac{20}{vj}$ *i.e.*, six score, according to his system of notation, to the hundred. His spelling is erratic, and his writing is very puzzling in many places.

The names of persons and places here mentioned usefully supplement information contained in the *Records of the Manchester Court Leet* and those of the *Salford Portmote.*

A boke [of eight foolscap half sheets stitched down the centre to form a narrow book of sixteen pages], made the xxvjth daie of July, of o^{r} vewing corne in Manchester, Salford, [and] Hollme near Manchester, 1584.

A Ryder [contains] sheves x; a hatack viii sheves.

CORNE VEWED IN MANCHESTER, 1584.

Note; in thes boke $\frac{20}{vj}$ [six score] to the hondeyreth.

Mr Strangues, [Strangeways], 71 R^{s} [Riders] of weat, [iiij to shere, cancelled].

Mr Bagulaie, 118 R^{s} barley.

Glover weido [Widow Glover], 88 q^{t} b. [quarters of barley?] the back y^{e} barne.

Wydo Prowdgloue, 42 R^{s} & a hattack b[arley].

Wyllyam Radclyffe, 62 & 20 tossers.

Glouer, 86 barly there in the Akers [St. Ann's Square].

George Pendelt [Pendleton], 80 barly lackg. 2.

Wydo gee, 81 Riders barly thear.

R^{s} 6. Mr Tettelow, 69 Riders barly.

R^{s} 3. Mr Radclyffe, in a dole ouer agenst Chrester Rothwell [Birlaman for Deansgate in 1565], Ryders barly xxxvijtie [*read* seven and thirtie].

Mr Radclyffe, in his Lyttell crofte, near Braberst crofte, Ryders $\frac{20}{iiij}$ & one hattack [iij Riders cancelled] barly.

John Radclyfe, in his crofte apon the back of horases [Horrox's], $\frac{20}{viij}$ Riders & one hattacks, barlie.

Rychard Hunt, in the gret fylde [the Great Hulme Meadow?] next Alperd [Alport], $\frac{20}{xiij}$ & xiij otts [oats] & a hattack.

Ryc. Huus [Shepley? cancelled] in Tettelow [Chetham, or in Tetlow's field?] over y^{e} way, $^{20}_{iiij}$ & xj Riders barly.

Thoms Brownesword, [v Ryders cancelled] of weatte shorne $^{20}_{v}$ Riders & j.

R^{s} 2. } Henry Pendelton, $^{20}_{vj}$ Riders & iij of weate shorne,
R^{s} 10. } & lyke 12 shevs.

Mr Hunt, next hes barne in y^{e} fylde, $^{20}_{viij}$ Riders [to lead] & iiij thithes y^{t} wer forth [taken away].

Mr Wm Radclyffe, in the becke howse fylde $^{20}_{xj}$ & x Ryders of barly.

R^{s} 13. Mr Radclyffe, at the ouderth hede [Old Earth Head] $^{20}_{vj}$ Riders & xviij of ottes.

Thomas Becke, [Ryc: Hunt cancelled], near the Sowsehilles [otherwise Sot's Hole, near Ridgefield, Deansgate] [is tithed?] wth wydo Glouer.

Mrs Becke, apon the backe of her barne, $^{20}_{v}$ & ii Ryders otts & a hattock.

R^{s} 4. Ryc^{9} Haryson, near adjoyning, a dole xlvj Riders barly.

Alexander pater by Mr Tettelow $^{20}_{vj}$ Riders barly & 1 Rider.

Thos. Bamford, by Mr Wylsōs [Wilson's], a dole b[arley] xlxvij Riders.

Thos Barford, next adjoyning, $^{20}_{iiij}$ & xiij of barly.

vx. [wife of] Raffe Prowdglou, over agenst y^{e} the sowthe, lxxvij b[arley].

[Mr Toged [Toogood?] in the heathes, cancelled].

[Raffe prodlow [Proudlove], lxiij b[arley] interlined].

James Radclyffe, next adjoyning, $^{20}_{xiiij}$ & x of otts.

Counted by Sh[eppard] to $^{20}_{xvij.}$ ffraunces Hough, next adjoining, $^{20}_{xv}$ of otts.

[& $^{viij}_{23}$ cancelled]. Raffe Rodlaie, next adjoining, $^{20}_{xj}$ & ij Riders.

Willyam Bollton, next, $^{20}_{v}$ & x Ryders ottes.

R^{s} xiiij Ridders. vx: ffrauncis pendelt, by grondey's land, $^{20}_{vij}$ xiij otts.

Antony Mosslaie, $^{20}_{xij}$ xij of barly, & som tossers.

Ralfe Headley [?], lxxiij of otts.

This side y^{e} howse. Robert Radlaie, near his howse, $^{20}_{vj}$ of otts shorne, & vij R benes.

vx^{r} Wyllyam Chettam, $^{20}_{viij}$ & xiij Riders otts.

James Lankesshere, xl Riders ottes, in howse.

James Marshall, $^{20}_{iiij}$ Ryders barly.

vx^{r} Thos Brydocke, lxj Ryders of otts, & xlvj of barly, shorne.

Mr Strags [Strangeways], in his near felde, fyrst in the boke, $^{20}_{j}$ Ryders of barly.

Mr Sheperd 2i, in a dole in his meydo, of ottes.

Mr Strages [Strangeways], l Ryders otts in the Cawsey [site of the old Roman Road, Broughton].

R^{s} 39. Mr Strangues, in the Oldescroft, $^{20}_{xxiiij}$ & iij Riders of otts.

Mr Sheperd, $^{20}_{vij}$ Riders of otts, aft^{r} I counted them.

Thom^{s} Brownesword, a dole of otts, $^{20}_{v}$ & iiij Ryders, $^{20}_{vij}$ Ryders in bothe, & som tosses, above xij.

Thos Brownesword, in the same fylde, ij dole of barly.

Thos Brownesword, a lyttell^{r} fyld, all otts, $^{20}_{v}$ & iiij Ryders.

Mr Stragues, vnder James Hyrstes howse, xij^{o} Ryders, lackg. one of barly.

R^{s} 2. Cleg, apon the backe of Edwrd gibson's howse, xxv eightlyigh,* [of thrashed corn?] and one of iiij sheves.

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*There were two words very similar to each other, which became gradually confused in the minds of the people. One was the middle English *eyztyndele*, which, in the *Promptorium Parvulorum*, is explained by the English and Latin words, "mesure, *satum*," meaning a measure of eight pounds of meal or eight gallons of corn; and this word, which contained a guttural, was at times spelt aghendole, haughendole, haughendo,

Mr Roger, $\frac{20}{ix}$ & x of otts.

Mr Strangues, Knolls [Stoney Knolls, Broughton], $\frac{20}{xvj}$ Ryders & vi of barly.

John Radclyffe, $\frac{20}{v}$ Riders barly.

John Radclyffe, next adjoyning, xj Ryders of barly shorn.

Mr Becke, $\frac{20}{iiij}$ Riders & iiij, in the Ouer Akers.

Thomas Bamford, lxj of otts.

Thomas Bamford, in another xlij.

Thomas Bamford, a dole of barly.

CORNE VEWED IN SALLFFORD, 1584.

Lesse c. thith [tithe] xj. Thomas Bolton, in a lyttell croft [Sontyn corfoot, sometime Kerfoot's *or* Sondy Croft?], $\frac{20}{v}$ & xiij R. weate.

Mrs Torkenton, 88 R. weatte.

R^s ii. Mrs Torkenton, apon the backe Side of Clueworth, $\frac{20}{v}$ & xiij R, barly.

vx John Bolton, xxx R, weat.

R^s 5. Robart Bolton, in ij Croftes adjoyning, lj Ryders of barlie.

Mr Byron, near his dufcot [Dove-cote], $\frac{20}{v}$ & xij weate.

R^s 6. Mr Byron, Brear crofte, $\frac{20}{xj}$ & x Riders, b[arley].

Mr Cartter, 20 Ryders, Rie [rye].

R^s 10. Mr Byron, weate shorn, in the intacke near the gret Oldfelde, $\frac{20}{v}$ & vij Riders.

R^s 8. vx: Wilhurst, over agenst Rothwell's, $\frac{20}{iiij}$ & vj Ryders of barlie.

Lawrans Robynson, in the groundie Holle, $\frac{20}{viij}$ & ij Ryders & a hattack b.

---

naghendal [an aghendole, a naghendole], nackendole, nackleton, naghleton. It seems to be based on the word eight. The other word was based on the word half, and was formed from Old English *healfan dæl*, meaning half part. This word also denoted a measurement, and when the guttural of the first word became softened into an F, the distinction between the two words, eightendale and halfendale, was lost.

R^s 14. } Mr Pilkynton, in the Est, $^{20}_{viij}$ & x Ryders of
R^s 4. } weat shorn, & lyke 90 to shear.

Lesse to thith 6. Thomas Bolton, in the Cliue [Clive or Cliff] doles, $^{20}_{iij}$ & viij Ryders of weatt.

James Holland, in the littell croft, in Sallford, by the crosse, xlj R. of barly.

Georg Holtte, xxx Riders of beane, & lyke iiij to shear.

R^s 10. Mr Byrom, in the intake, $^{20}_{v}$ Riders & vij of wheat shorne.

Edmonde Howeworth, in the Claye Bancke, $^{20}_{vj}$ & viij Rid^s & a Hattacke of barly.

Edmonde Howeworth, a dole in the mydle fylde, Riders of barly shorne lx.

Thomas Bolton, apon the backe side of the howse, xl Riders of barly.

R^s x. Thomas Bolton, by the grene lane, $^{20}_{v}$ & xl Ryders of ottes shorne.

Mr Byron, in the backe mydle fylde, l Ryders [of otts shorn, & above xvj to shere cancelled] $^{20}_{iiij}$ & x Ridders ottes.

Mrs Traifort [Trafford of Trafford], in the same felde, xl Ryders of beanes.

Mr Byron, in a croft next the barne crofte, lxxj of barly.

R^s ij. } Raffe Holland, $^{20}_{v}$ & viij Riders barly.
R^s 8. }

Mr Hunt, in Barlowe's backe fylde, xlviij Ryders of weate.

R. 8. Mr Hunt, his dole in theyr mydle fyld, barly $^{20}_{iiij}$ & ij Ryders.

Thos Bolton, in the gret Oldfelde, xlvij Ryders of otts, about iiij tosses.

R^s ij. Mrs Trafort xx & a hattack of barly in the gret Oldfelde.

R^s 3. Raffe Byron, at Brere Croft, xxxij Ryders otts.

R^{s} 3. Mr Byron, in another Croft next y^{t}, xxxij otts.

Mrs Torkenton, $^{20}_{x}$ & viij Ryders barly, next cartteng by Georg Holles.

R^{s} 10. Mr Pilkynton, in the Cornel Hil, weate $^{20}_{v}$ Ryders & ij of barly.

Mr Pilkynton, in a lyttell fylde above y^{t}, $^{20}_{iiij}$ Ryders wthin one, barly.

Mr Pilkynton in the w^{thes} towrd Stforth [warths toward Stretforth] xl Ryders otts.

R^{s} ij. Mr Byron, in the neythe^{r} Oldfelde, apon the backe syde of Rothwells, in a dole, $^{20}_{vij}$ Ryders barly, & lyke ij to shear.

R^{s} ix. Robart Bolton, a dole next ajoyning, barly $^{20}_{iiij}$ Riders shorne.

Thos Huet [Holt, cancelled], a dole apon the backe side of his howse, xlvj Ryders otts.

Mrs Trafort, in the oldfelde, next her meydo, $^{20}_{viij}$ Ryders of barly & ij.

Adam Massy, $^{20}_{iiij}$ & xij Riders of weate, & a hattack.

Mr Pilkynton, in the Oldfelde, $^{20}_{v}$ Ryders of otts.

James Holland, a lyttell fylde of otts next John Oldam, $^{20}_{iij}$ Ryders shorn, & above vij to shear.

Mrs Trafort, in the oldefeld, $^{20}_{viij}$ Riders otts.

Mrs Trafort, in the beecroft, $^{20}_{iiij}$ Ryders & ij ottes.

Thos Sorowcolde, in golliefyld [Gallow-field], $^{20}_{vj}$ Ryders otts.

Thos Sorocold, next adjoyning, a close of barley, lxxvj Riders.

R ix. Thos Bolton, $^{20}_{iiij}$ xiiij Riders of beanes, in the Lower Oldfeld.

R^{s} 2. Glebe sett, by the fotway yt leadeth to Ordsall, xxvij Ryders of otts, & lyke v tossers, in the same fylde, oldfeld.

John Oldam, in the ffylde vnder his howse, $\frac{20}{iiij}$ Ryders of barly shorn, & the lyke to shear.

Mr Pilkynton, by James Pelton's [Pendleton's], $\frac{20}{ij}$ Riders of otts.

Wyllyam Debdale, $\frac{20}{iiij}$ & ou^{r} of barly, & xj of otts, R^{s} 6 of b, i otts.

Wyllyam Cartter, $\frac{20}{xj}$ & x otts.

Wyllyam Cartter, $\frac{20}{v}$ Ryders of barly, near his howse.

Wyllyam Bradshow, $\frac{20}{vij}$ Riders of otts.

Wyllyam Bradshow, in another fylde, $\frac{20}{iiij}$ viij Riders otts.

My lord perfer (?) lx Riders of otts.

R^{s} 5. Gilbert Byby, in the gret Oldfelde, lx Ryders barly, lackyng ij.

R^{s} 10. John Oldam, $\frac{20}{v}$ Riders x of otts, in the Checker [near Windsor Bridge].

R^{s} 33. Mr Pilkynton, in the gret C'fte [Crofte?], $\frac{20}{xvij}$ Ryders xiij & a hattock.

Mr Pilkynton, in the wtheies, xij Ryders, beanes.

R^{s} 7. Raffe Byron, apon the howse of Rothwelle's, in a dole, lxxvij & a hattocke of barly.

Gilbert Bybbe, in a dole in the mydle felde, $\frac{20}{vij}$ Ryders, barly.

Thos. Bolton, in a dole in the mydle felde, $\frac{20}{v}$ & 10 Ryders of barly.

John Oldam, in a dole in the mydle felde, lxx Ryders, & one of them vj sheves, R^{s} vj of otts.

James Bradshow, l Riders of barly.

James Bradshow, in the same fylde, xxx Ryders, ottes.

James Bradshow, in a lyttell fylde next ajoyning, lvij Ryders ottes R^{s} v.

James Holland, in a lyttell Close, in the Oldfelde, lxv Ryders of barly, & lyke xv to shear.

Mr Pilkynton, near the furthe^r, $^{20}_{v}$ Ryders of beanes, Lackg. i.

John Bradshow, $^{20}_{viij}$ Eightelygh, & viij eightlygh, & lyke xij to shear.

John Bradshow, in the gret oldfelde, $^{20}_{iiij}$ xj Eighelygh.

My mother's, lx Riders barly.

John Bradshow, ij Eighlygh of otts.

CORNE VEWED IN HOLLME.

R^s 41, & a hattak. Mr Prestewech, a close, near my brother Pendelton, of weate $^{xx}_{xxj}$ Riders & x.

Mrs Prestewech, near the Parke, $^{20}_{xvij}$ Riders otts.

R^s 5. } Mrs Prestewech, next y^t, $^{20}_{viij}$ Ryders barly
R^s 56. } shorne.

John Lighes, lxx Riders less one, to thith 6, & in som of them ix sheaues; the sheves of the thithes & Riders lesse be the one hollffe then the other; vewed the xvij^th daie of August, 1584, by John gee, wyttes head [witness the headman?] of Mr Shepperd, Edward Sorocold, Wyllyam Howeworth, my L's man.

John Leghes, in another fylde, xl Ryders otts.

John Leghes borth^r, lxx Ryders.

M^rs inothe [*sic*].

R^s 2.
R^s 2.
R^s 17. } Mrs Prestweech, apon the backe of Wylkynson's, $^{20}_{xliij}$ & xv of otts.
21.
20.

Mrs Prestwech, in a Lyttell close, next Brodehollme [Broad Hulme], $^{20}_{xij}$ Ryders otts.

R^s 10. The butteler, $^{20}_{v}$ & xj of otts.

M^d y^t, in the xxv^th daie of August 1584, Jeffraie, Mr Strangues man, & another oulde man, & a boy, lede barly forth of the Knolles [Higher Broughton] & hade

Lod & Lost abowt viij thith, & dyde thith [did tithe] as the[y] Loded, vz. Laid ix apon the cart, & set a boske [a bush]* in the xth, & wold not Let vs to be aquented wth the thithes.

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* A bush or branch was commonly stuck into the tenth rider, to denote that it was claimed for tithe and must be left in the field.

EXTRACTS RELATING TO DEANSGATE, MANCHESTER, FROM THE NEWTON MANOR COURT ROLLS, BETWEEN 1530 AND 1687.

BY H. T. CROFTON.

This manor belonged and still belongs to the College of Manchester, now represented by the Dean and Canons. It embraced the township of Newton with the hamlet of Kirkmanshulme, and the possessions of the Manchester College in Manchester, Rusholme, and Salford.

The Court of Newton, "Keurdmansholme," and Deansgate, was in 1530 held at the College of the Blessed Mary of Manchester. The tenants of the Churchland in Manchester are not, however, distinguished from those of Newton, &c., in the earlier records.

The tenants of Yield House in Rusholme were coupled with those of Kirkmanshulme, and those of Salford were included amongst the Deansgate tenants.

The Records or Rolls from 1530 to 1691 are full of gaps, and from 1691 to 1843 are missing.

1530 Aug 2. John Hill of Deanesgate hath taken polles, radlinges, cartstaves, and sprint culls [sticks used in thatching, sometimes called sprinklers and sprinklings]; in mercy ij d.

1582, Nov. 2. Fined xij d a piece for nonattendance;

Deanesgate: Henry Torkenton, James Smythe, Thos. Marcrofte, Wm. Ractliffe gent.

1631, Oct 12. Book of Tenants in Deansgate: Adam Byron, gent.; Heirs of Hugh Proudelove, gent.; Heirs of Geo. Birche, gent.; Robert Chadwicke, gent.; Richd Smethurst, gent.; Thos Soracould, gent.; Heirs of George Holden, gent.; Heirs of — Wynington, gent.

1633, Sep 15. Names of Tenants in Deanesgate: Sir Cecill Trafford, knight; Ann Mosley, widow, in right of her son Edward is excused &c by Hamlet Deane; Adam Byron, gent.; Francis Mosley gent is excused by John Leighe; John Holcroft gent; Thos Birch gent; Geo. Proudelove gent is pardoned because he is not summoned; Daniell Hopwoodd, gent; Hugh Smethurste, gent; Robt Chadwicke gent. pardoned because not summoned; Thos Soracould; Ralph Seddon gent; Edwd Sheppard gent. is excused &c by John Leighe; Adam Smythe is excused &c by John Hartley; Samuel Tippinge senior is excused &c by William Birche; James Ferguson; Edward Smythe is excused &c by James Frierson; Elizabeth Tippinge is excused by Barnard Cley; Robert Ouldam in right of Alice his wife; William Radcliffe is excused by Edmund Vnsworthe; William Hulme; Edward Pendleton; Thomas Sefton excused by Thomas Becke; Charles Leighe pardoned because he was on College business; Thomas Wolfenden; Isabell Chetam widow excused by Joseph Holland; Thomas Bordman excused by Thos. Jeffreyson; Thomas Jeffreyson; Francis Torkington excused by Henry Whiteall; Robert Pendleton did not appear. [At the same court between two Newton Heath items] William Hulme hath stopped a watercourse in Parsonage Croft, and the jury amersey him in sixpence.

1642 April 19. The burgage in the Deansgate in Manchester wherein Charles Leigh doth dwell did anciently

belong to Mr John Ma[rc]r[ofte] [*see* 1582] and his ancestors And is . . . of lease and the tenant right doth belong to the heirs of Mr William Hulme of B[ladston, Broadstone in Reddish?] deceased.

Mr Samuel Tippinge & Robt Pendleton, who were late tenants to the College are lately deceased.

Thos. Jeffreyson is deceased since the last Court, & Josua Jeffreyson his brother is Tenant in his stead for a tenement in the Deansgate in possession of Josua, but the Lease is expired.

1648 Oct 20. George Hulme ordered to be at the house of Anne Hulme widow in the Deansgate in Manchr on 28th day of this month, to take his oath for the office of miselayer.

1670 Apr 25. Mr Henry Dickonson is tenant to the College for a messuage in the Deanesgate which was formerly Anne Holme's [Hulme's] and is to come in to do his suit &c.

Mr Edward Bootle is tenant to the Coll: for a mess: in the D'gate, which formerly did belong to Mr Michael Buxtones & is to come &c.

1670, Oct. 20. Mr Henry Dickonson was by order of the last Court [record or roll lost] to repair or keep up a pale or fence betwixt the lands now in the occupation of Hugh Bolton and lands now in the occupation of Thos. Rothwell in Manchester subpena 40*s*, the pale is not repaired, the penalty due, Mr H. D. to repair before 2nd Feb. s.p. 4li. [compare *Manchester Court Lect Records*, by Earwaker, 1669, Oct. 15, vol. v., p. 96].

1671, Oct. 19. Court adjourned from Newton Thos. Kirke's house in Manchr. on Oct 28. at 11 o'clock in the forenoon.

[*Circa* 1680, date gone.] ffranck Ne [freeholders] in le Deanesgate: Hrs of Edwd Mosley; Edmund Trafford

Esq; James Lever gent; Jas. Johnson; Thos Birch Esq; Hrs of Geo Proudlove; John Hopwood Esq; Peter Rowlinson pauper. [hrs of, prefixed] Saml Buttler; Ralph Seddon; Michael Flitcroft; Hrs of Thos Leigh Esq.

NAMES IN DEANESGATE UPON DEMISE.

Henry Dickanson, gent.; John Oldfeild, gent.; John Herd; Thos Warrington; [Hrs of Edmd. Neild, cancelled, John Barlow substituted]; Thos Rothwell; Edwd. Bootle gent; [Hrs of Thomas cancelled, Henry substituted] Kirke; Lawr: Gardner; John Lightbowne, gent.

"NEWTON COURT, 1683." NAMES OF TENANTS, INHABITANTS, FREEHOLDERS, &C IN NEWTON MANOR. MANCHESTER.

Henry Kirke; Robt Leaver Esq; John Herd; Mr Thos Drinkwater; Mr Jno. Oldfeild; Mr John Lightbowne; Jane Haworth; John Barlow; Mr Edward Bootle, Mr Matthew Bootle; Leftwich Oldfeild Esq.; Thos Warmington; Tomas Rothwell; Anne Neild; Edmd Trafford Esq; Hrs of Sr Edwd. Mosley Barrtt; Michael Flitcroft gent.; Thos Birch Esq; Jas. Johnson; Lawrence Gardner, James Hilton.

1683 Apr 13. Adjourned from Newton till Saturd: 21 April at the house of James Bolton, innkeeper, in the Deansgate in Manchr; to two of the clock in the afternoon.

Mrs Mary Becke hath alienated her estate in the Parsonage, to wit the Parsonage Field and the houses in the Parsonage and Mr Thos. Drinkwater hath the same; T.D. to come to do suit &c.

Mrs Mary Becke hath alienated a house in the Deansgate called Jefferson's house & Mr Thos. Drinkwater hath the same; T.D. to come &c.

Mr Mathew Bootle is tenant to the house called the Rose and Crowne in Manchester; M.B. to come &c.

Sarah Clough hath lately taken a lease of a house in the Deansgate and hath since married to Mr Adam Gartside; A.G. to come &c.

1684 Apr. Newton Call Book. ffranck Ne in le Deanegate: [Hrs of, cancelled] Edwd Moseley [Barr^tt^ cancelled, Esq substituted] Edmd. Trafford Esq; Jas. Lever gen.; Jas. Johnson; [Hrs of, prefixed] Thos Birch Esq; Martha Ryland, wid.; Hrs of Geo. Proudlove; John Hopwood Esq.; Peter Rollinson; Mary Butler wid:; Ralph Seddon; Michael Flitcroft gen., Hrs of Thos Chernock Esq; Hrs of Thos. Leigh Esq.; [Adam Gartside, added].

NAMES IN DEANESGATE UPON DEMISE.

John Oldfeild, gent.; John Herd; Jane Howorth, wid.; Leftwich Oldfeild Esq.; [Adam Gartside for the old warden's House, inserted in 1684 but cancelled in May 1685]; Thos Warrington; Hrs of John Barlowe; Thos Rothwell; Edwd Bootle gent.; Mathew Bootle; Henry Kirke; Anne Neild wid.; Lawr: Gardner; John Lightbowne gent; Thos. Drinkwater.

1684 Oct. Sr Edwd Mosley Bar^tt^ is dead & Edwd Mosley Esq. enjoyeth that place; E.M. to come &c.

1685 May 4. Adjourned from Newton to the house of Henry Kirk on Saturd: 9 May. at 4 'o'clock in the afternoon.

Thomas Warrington hath alienated a house in the Dainsgate unto Peter Tickill who is possessor of same; P.T. to come &c.

John Leech hath taken a lease from the Lords of a house in ye Deansgate; J.L. to come &c.

1685 Oct 2. Adjourned from Newton to Henry Kirk's at 3 on 10th Oct.

Call Book, Oct. 1885. Deansgate tenants on demise:

Thos Warrington cancelled. John Leech follows Peter Tickill instead of heirs of John Barlowe.

1686 Apr. Callbook. Deansgate. Mr Joseph Hooper substituted for John Lightbowne, Samuel for Thos. Drinkwater.

Court adjourned from Newton to Edward Heywood's house in Manchester at 4 on Saturday.

Mr Joseph Hooper is become tenant to a house in the Danesgate in Manchr. formerly belonging to Mr John Lightbowne; Mr H. to come &c.

1686 Oct 20. Court adjourned from Newton to Andrew Fletcher's Rose & Crowne in Manchr. at 3 on Saturday.

1687 Apr 14. Adjourned to house of Anne Heywood vid. in Manchr.

Thos Drinkwater of Manchr gent. is dead & Samuel D. his son is heir; S. D. to come &c.

1687, Oct 20. Adjourned to Anne Heywood's.

BISHOP NICOLSON'S VISIT TO MANCHESTER, 1704.

BY CHARLES W. SUTTON.

THE Bishop of Barrow-in-Furness has furnished me with a transcript of the diary of Bishop Nicolson for the 17th and 18th October, 1704, on which days he was in Manchester. William Nicolson was the well-known Bishop of Carlisle, author of the *English, Scotch, and Irish Historical Libraries* and other works. His interesting diaries have been printed in part by the Cumberland and Westmorland Antiquarian Society, but this portion about Manchester was omitted. It will be noticed that he describes Manchester as "the largest ville in the Queen's dominions," thus anticipating the designation used by the antiquary Stukeley in 1724. The tapestry seen by Nicolson is still in existence in the cathedral, though not now at the "Altar." His remark about Humphrey Chetham's portrait points to its being a posthumous work, and not from life, as we have always believed. We know really nothing about the artist or date, and this is the earliest allusion to the portrait that I have met with. Dr. Charles Leigh, whom the bishop called on, was the author of the *Natural History of Lancashire, Cheshire, and the Peak of Derbyshire*, 1700, and was at that time

practicing as a physician at Manchester. It has often been said that he died in 1701, but this entry shows the statement to be erroneous.

EXTRACT FROM BISHOP NICHOLSON'S DIARIES.

1704, Oct. 17.—Tuesday. From Garstang to handsome and proud Preston 10 short miles; and thence to Chorley six, as long in rideing as the other ten. 'Twas Mercate Day here; and I could not but take Notice of the generally fair Countenances of both Sexes. Hence to Manchester sixteen more of the like Lancashire miles. On the West End of Manchester Bridge lies Sawfurth; where there's a Cure supply'd by one of the Fellowes. The Town of M. is no Corporation or Burrough; but the largest ville in the Queen's Dominions. The Church is a neat and Noble Fabrick. The Quire and Chapter-House (Round, and cield with wood like that at York) are both very Uniform: The Stalls in the Chancel (for the Warden, Fellowes, Chaplain and Singing-men) well carv'd. the Tapestry at the Altar represents the Story of Ananias and Saphira, and has a deal of silk in it; the Seats in the Body of the Church Regular; &c. No Monument of Note. The Warden Dr. Roe, [Wroe] lives in Town. But all the fellowes on their Cures at some little Distance. The fellowes preach by Turns, Forenoon and Afternoon, on Sundayes; and the Warden on some solemn Dayes. We lodg'd at the Bull's Head (Mr. W. Booker's) in the Mercate-place. The whole on a Rock. Sir John Bland Bart. is Lord of the place; and his two Constables have the Civil Government under his Steward. The Meeting-House of the Dissenters cost about £1,500. Sir Tho. Standishes of Duksberry, and Mr. Hilton's of the Park, were the only Houses of Note in our way twixt

this place and Preston; Sir Charles Houghton's of Houghton Tower being at a Distance, seated like Belvoir Castle.

Oct. 18.—Wednesday. In the morning at the Hospital; formerly the College. There are now forty blew-coate Boys maintain'd at School; the Curators (24, of which the warden one) have the Government independent of the Fellowes: Tho! this was theirs before the Dissolution in Ed. 6th's, time; when from 13 Mannors they were reduc'd to two. Afterwards the Earls of Derby had the House and the Revenue. About 1653 Mr. Cheatham a merchant, purchas'd the House; and rais'd a new Foundation independent of the former. His picture, drawn at a guess, hangs with M. Luther's, Mr. Bolton's &c. in the Dineing Room. The Library is very extraordinary; and well furnish'd. The Convenience of Cellarage, Kitchin, Hall, &c. regular. Dr. [Charles] Leigh shew'd me the Remainder of his Rarities, the rest being given to Dr. Sloan. Amongst these Reliques, 1. A poysonous Spar; pale and ponderous. 2. Succinum nigrum, or jet, from the Derbyshire mines. 3. Branched Sponge; which he (wrong) takes to be the Root of the Common. Hence to Stockport, 5 miles; thence to Walley-Bridge six: Both these Good. Thence to Buxton five; mountainous and rough. From Mr. Anth. Heathcot's in Buxton, I went to Pool's Hole in the parish of Hartington which is only a Limestone-swallow; but the finest Rarity in the Peak. The Lyon, flitch of Bacon, Pool's Font, the old man, &c. are as like what they are call'd as you are pleas'd to fancy 'em. We went as far as the Queen of Scot's pillar; which was as far as my head allow'd me to travel in that Hideous Cave. The Bathing Well is at the D. of Devonshire's House (an Inn, lett at £60.) a little below the village; and is about

nine yards long and five broad. The water is Lukewarm. Haveing seen this & pool's Chambers (which all allow to exceed the Devil's Arse) I contended myself, without proceeding to Mam Tor, shewn to me at a distance, and the rest of the Peak miracles. The Town of Buxton is a small chapelry in the parish of Bakewell, eight miles off; and Pool's hole is in the parish of Hartington; but the Hill, under which it is, is call'd Buxton-Green; which is cover'd with Lime-Kilns, and furnishes the hither parts of Cheshire with that commodity. Of Buxton-Well, and its antient & modern state, see more in what Dr. Jones & Sir John Floyer have written on the subject.

PROCEEDINGS.

Friday, January 29th, 1904.

THE annual meeting was held in the reading room of Chetham's Hospital, Mr. W. E. A. Axon presiding.

The twenty-first annual report was read by Mr. George C. Yates, F.S.A., Honorary Secretary.

The officers were elected as follows:—

President:
HENRY TAYLOR, F.S.A.

Vice-Presidents:

WM. E. A. AXON, LL.D., F.R S.L.
Dr. BOYD DAWKINS, F.R.S., F.S.A.
Lieut.-Col. FISHWICK, F.S.A.
GEORGE PEARSON.
F. RENAUD, M.D., F.S.A.
CHARLES W. SUTTON, M.A.

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SAMUEL ANDREW.
C. T. TALLENT-BATEMAN.
F. A. BROMWICH.
W. S. CHURCHILL.
ALFRED DARBYSHIRE, F.S.A.
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HENRY GUPPY, M.A.
NATHAN HEYWOOD.
D. F. HOWORTH, F.S.A. (Scot.).
Rev. H. A. HUDSON, M.A.
FLETCHER MOSS, J.P.
ALBERT NICHOLSON.
J. J. PHELPS.
W. J. REDFORD.
J. E. SANDBACH.

Treasurer: WILLIAM HARRISON.

Honorary Secretary: GEORGE C. YATES, F.S.A.

Mr. Thomas May, F.S.A. (Scot.), read some "Notes on a Bronze Age Barrow" recently explored near Kenyon. (See vol. xxi., p. 120.)

Sir Henry H. Howorth, F.R.S., F.S.A., Mr. R. D. Darbishire, F.S.A., Mr. Charles Roeder, and the Rev. E. F. Letts, M.A., were elected honorary members of the Society.

Friday, March 11th, 1904.

At the meeting of the Society, held at the Chetham Hospital, Mr. Wm. E. A. Axon in the chair, Mr. Charles Roeder showed a series of old maps and plans of Manchester, and read some notes on the aspect and social condition of the town in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. (See vol. xxi., p. 153.)

Messrs. Wm. Harrison, C. W. Sutton, M.A., T. May, J. J. Phelps, and the Chairman took part in a discussion on this paper.

Mr. Giles Shaw read a paper on the life and writings of Edwin Butterworth, the Oldham topographer and historian. (See page 61.)

The Chairman made a short communication on a MS. formerly belonging to Cockersand Abbey, and now in the Bodleian Library.

Friday, April 8th, 1904.

At the meeting of the Society, held in the Chetham Library, Mr. William E. A. Axon presiding, Mr. A. Nicholson read some notes on a remarkable sale of Scottish antiquities from the collection of the late J. N. Durrant-Steuart, of Dalguise, Perthshire, which took place at Edinburgh on March 12th. One of the objects was the Queen Mary harp, which was bought by the Scottish Antiquarian Museum for eight hundred and fifty guineas.

The Chairman read a paper on "Two Votive Rag-branches and a Prayer-stick in the Manchester Museum" (see page 50), and Mr. Standen, of the Owens College, and Mr. J. B. Robinson made some interesting remarks on the subject.

Mr. William Lees sent for the inspection of the members a deed of grant of land at Saddleworth that had belonged to Roche Abbey, made by Henry VIII., for a consideration, to two persons named Ashton and Gartside. A fine specimen of the Tudor seal was attached to the document.

Mr. H. T. Crofton contributed a paper, entitled "Tithe Corn Book for Manchester, &c., 1584," which was read in his absence by Mr. William Harrison. (See page 170.)

Mr. H. T. Crofton also sent a paper containing extracts relating to Deansgate, Manchester, from the Newton manor court rolls belonging to the Dean and Canons of Manchester. (See page 180.)

Saturday, May 14th, 1904.

A party of the members of the Society visited Macclesfield, and on arrival were met by Dr. W. H. Clarke and Mr. Walter Aston, F.R.I.B.A., who conducted them to the town hall, where they were met by the mayor and mayoress and several prominent gentlemen of the district. A paper prepared by Dr. W. H. Clarke "On the Charters, Documents, and Insignia relating to the Ancient Manor and Borough of Macclesfield" was read by the Town Clerk. (See page 154.)

Mr. Walter Aston contributed a paper on certain antiquarian discoveries in Macclesfield, which was read by Mr. C. W. Sutton. (See page 164.)

Before leaving, the members visited the remains of the

old oratory, Bate Hall, King Edward's Chapel, the remains of the old castle, and the parish church. At the church they were received by the Rev. Lucius Smith, M.A., who conducted them round the church, pointing out the interesting monuments and other objects of antiquarian interest. A visit to the West Park and the museum brought the excursion to a close.

Wednesday, May 18th, 1904.

The members paid a visit to Didsbury, where they were received and entertained by their fellow-member Mr. Fletcher Moss, J.P., at the Old Parsonage. Here they spent some time in inspecting and admiring the relics Mr. Moss had accumulated, partly by inheritance, partly by purchase. Particular attention was paid to the old china, of which he possesses some fine and antique specimens, and to the stall ends with handsomely carved heads, made from old English oak, which were formerly at Barlow Hall. Out of doors were various architectural fragments from St. Mary's Church, formerly in Manchester, and the old well brought from Hanging Ditch. The old-fashioned garden was at its best, and the visitors were able to pass through an arcade of apple-blossom and to see the fine azalea tree in full flower.

Later on the old parish church was visited, Mr. Moss having given in advance the salient points in its history: the reference to the "capellanus de Diddesburie" in a deed of the thirteenth century, the dedication of the chapelyard in 1352 after the Black Death, and the entry in the registers of the baptism of Edward Barlowe in 1585, and the burial in 1612 of Sir Nicholas Mosley, once lord mayor of London. He also referred to the Mosley monument in the church and the tablet to the memory of

Dame Anne Bland, lady of the manor of Manchester. The inscription outside the tower was pointed out and explained to mean that Sir Edward Mosley and Ann Mosley were the founders of it. On entering the church such of the party as had been present at the last visit of the Society just ten years before noticed the great changes effected in the interior, a complete restoration having taken place.

Saturday, June 11th, 1904.

A party of about fifty members and friends proceeded to Kendal and enjoyed one of the most successful excursions in the history of the Society. The visitors entered waggonettes at Kendal Station, and were driven through portions of the town, viewing the castle which was formerly the residence of Katherine Parr, the last wife of Henry VIII., and the parish church, a valuable living in the gift of Trinity College, Cambridge.

Sizergh Castle was thrown open for inspection by the kindness of the owner, Sir Gerald Strickland, governor of the Leeward Islands. The party was met at the gate of the castle by Mr. John F. Curwen, F.S.A., secretary of the Cumberland and Westmorland Antiquarian Society, who acted as leader of the party at Sizergh, and subsequently at Levens Hall, on which his monograph, published by Mr. Titus Wilson, of Kendal, on the occasion of the visit of the Royal Archæological Institute to Lancaster and district in July, 1898, is one of the best known local books.

After rambling through the various rooms of the mansion and inspecting the wood work and other curiosities, the members resumed their seats in the carriages and were driven to Levens Hall, the handsome seat of Captain Josceline Bagot, M.P. for Westmorland.

From the house the party passed to the celebrated gardens of this mediæval mansion. Numerous forms of birds and animals are depicted here in evergreens and tree culture. Levens Hall was some years ago the summer residence of Mrs. Humphry Ward when she drew from the surrounding country the local colour for *Helbeck of Banisdale.* The party was told of the many famous Radish Feasts which, up to recently, were annually held on May 12th, when the Mayor and Corporation of Kendal went in procession to proclaim the Fair of Milnthorpe. In the cellars of Levens Hall are still preserved many barrels of the dark coloured ale brewed for long centuries there. It is said that the recipe for brewing it was preserved during the Civil War by being wrapped up in lead and buried in the old garden. The beer is kept for twenty-one years before it is tapped.

At Borwick Hall, Mr. William Oliver Roper, F.S.A., took the party in charge. This Tudor hall was built about 1579 by Christopher Bindloss, a Kendal merchant. The Sir Robert Bindloss, who was created a baronet on August 16th, 1641, who was a member of Parliament for the borough of Lancaster from 1645 to 1653 and for the county in the Parliament of 1660, and who served the office of high sheriff of Lancashire in the years 1658, 1672, and 1673, was a Royalist. In 1651, when the Royalist army was on the march from Scotland to London, Charles II. spent the night at Borwick Hall. The next morning the Royalists left for Lancaster, where Charles was proclaimed in all solemnity, when the march was continued as far as Worcester, to meet with disastrous defeat. Sir Robert Bindloss had for his chaplain a noted man in Dr. Richard Sherlock, who is described as "a person of a most pious life, exemplary conversation, of great charity, hospitality, and so zealous

a man for the Church of England that he was accounted by precise persons popishly affected and a papist in masquerade." Dr. Sherlock ultimately became Rector of Winwick, near Warrington, where he died on June 15th, 1689. He gave £30 to the poor of Borwick, which is still distributed with some of the ancient formalities.

The hall now belongs to Colonel Marton, of Capernwray Hall. Many of the members ascended to the roof and much enjoyed the views of north Lancashire to be obtained therefrom. There is a tradition that in one of the rooms Lord Clarendon wrote his *History of the Great Rebellion.* Borwick Hall stands on rising ground overlooking the valley of the Keer. To the west is the bold outline of Warton Crag, to the east are the hills dividing the Keer valley from that of the Lune. To the south-west are the waters of Morecambe Bay. Mr. Roper pointed out the long oak table in the hall, said to be the one in use when Charles II. visited Borwick.

The excursion was one of the most interesting that has ever been held, and a hope was generally expressed that a suggestion made by a former member of the Council of the Society (Mr. T. Cann Hughes, M.A., F.S.A., town clerk of Lancaster), in favour of another day being given to this district would be adopted. The general arrangements for the excursion were made by Mr. Hughes with the ready assistance of the chief constable of Lancaster (Mr. Charles E. Harriss).

Saturday, July 16th, 1904.

The members, under the leadership of Mr. W. H. Sutcliffe, F.G.S., of Littleborough, visited some interesting remains in the neighbourhood of Blackstone Edge. Driving to Summit they first climbed Snoddle Hill,

passing Timber Cliff Farm. This name points to a time when the valley was covered with trees, but now, alas! only a few stunted oaks remain. Mounting the third grit rocks, the outcrop of a seam of coal with the underlying fireclay was examined. This was especially interesting from the fact that the drain pipes made from this clay are supplied to the Manchester Corporation. "Snoddle Hill" equals "Snod Hill," or "Smooth Hill," and was shaped in the Ice Age. The ice sheet passing over this hill carved it out into the well-known type of "crag and tail." On the top of this hill the remains of a neolithic barrow were seen. The mound of earth had all been denuded by the storms and rains of centuries, and a circle of flat stone with stone cist in the centre alone remained. But this was a point of great interest, as it was the usual custom of the barrow builders of this neighbourhood to begin their operations by laying down a stone circle, in the centre of which was built a cist of rough stones, in which was placed the urn containing the burnt human bones. Small fragments of flint were picked up in the immediate neighbourhood of the barrow. From the build and main characteristic feature of the burne ground it may be concluded that it belongs to an early Celtic race which inhabited the hills in this part of Lancashire, a race which made and used the beautifully wrought flint implements which are to be found underneath the peat in these high moorland districts. Collections of these can be seen in the Manchester and Rochdale museums.

Descending the hill on a carpet of crowberry, with here and there clumps of cotton grass and bell heather, under a hot sun tempered by a refreshing breeze, and listening to the shrill whistle of the sandpiper, members reached Spotbins. Here several rock slips were pointed out,

massive blocks of fourth grit sandstone being aggregated and mingled in grotesque forms. The leader then conducted the party to the summit of Blackstone Edge, where tea was supplied at the White House. After a rest, for the climb had been of the stiffest, the antiquaries proceeded along the Broadhead drain to the site of the Blackstone Edge bonfire, built to commemorate the late Queen's Diamond Jubilee. The immense mass of stone built up to form the cone of the bonfire still remains. Next the Roman road was reached, and the various theories advanced by the learned were discussed; that of Dr. H. Colley March finding most favour. This road is a massive piece of work, having a central trough stone, in which the wheels of vehicles were skidded when passing down the steep gradient. On each side of the central trough is a well-preserved pavement, formed from setts of millstone grit, and the wheel ruts worn by the Roman chariots were carefully observed. The curb stones on each side of the road are still *in situ*, buttressed by two rows of setts, and on each side of the road the fosse made to drain the road still remains. The central trough stones were undoubtedly used for skidding purposes, for each side of the trough was worn down, leaving a ridge in the centre. The members were referred to the Society's volume for 1883, which contains an interesting account of this remarkable road, and four excellent illustrations of it.

Descending this road in the direction of Littleborough, "Windy Bank," an old Jacobean mansion, was reached. This has been restored, but the old gargoyles, chimney, and gables still remain, and were points of special interest. Littleborough Station was next reached, and a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the leader.

Monday, July 25th, 1904.

The members visited Denton and Hyde under the leadership of Mr. Thomas Middleton. On arrival at Denton the members proceeded to Denton Old Chapel, where they were met by the rector (Rev. D. Rome) and the several officers of the church.

Mr. T. Middleton said that the church, formerly known as Denton Chapel, was built in 1531-2 by the Hydes of Hyde, the Hydes of Denton, and the Hollands of Denton. It was originally dedicated to St. James, but the name was altered to St. Lawrence by Mr. Gresswell—minister at Denton 1791–1853—because the village wake was held on St. Lawrence's day. It contains some curious old oak. There are several brasses, one stating that "reduced to ashes here rests all that was mortal of Edward Holland son of Richard Holland of Denton, knt." He died of smallpox in 1655 at the age of twenty-nine years. In the aisle is the grave of John Angier, the minister of Denton from 1632 to 1677. The communion plate consists of an ancient cup inscribed "The Coppe for the Lord's Table," and another presented by a daughter of Sir John Done, of Utkington, who died in 1666. In the side windows of the chancel is some ancient stained glass; one piece of this appears to represent St. Lawrence on a gridiron, but its history has not yet been traced. The registers contain the following curious entries: "1696-7, March 6. Buried John son of John Hyde of Denton, born the same day, baptized I know not when." "1699. An account of the names of all those that paid towards the buyinge of a Black for the use of ye chappell in ye yeare of our Lorde 1699. . . . It is agreed upon and concluded by all those whose names are above written that they and their families for ever shall be free to the

Black, and all such persons as have not contributed shall pay accordinge as the then chappell wardens shall order them. And if it so appen that two be to be buried upon one day, both contributors, that then they that first dyed shall have the use of it, furthermore it is agreed that the chappell wardens shall have it in their custody." "1701, Sep. 25. Collected then by us towards ye Redemption of ye captives wthin ye dominion of ye Emperour of ffez and Morocooe ye sum of three shillings and eight pence." The Puritan soldier Colonel Dukinfield was buried at Denton, as was also the wife of the Rev. Oliver Heywood, who died in 1661.

The members then proceeded to Hyde Hall, Denton. It was the seat of the Hydes of Denton, a branch of the Hydes of Hyde. Lord Clarendon and Anne Hyde, mother of Queens Mary and Anne, came from the same stock. Robert Hyde, of Denton, took part in the defence of Manchester in 1642. The hall is of sixteenth century date, and contains a fine great hall, in which is a fireplace eleven feet wide, and an oriel window. Upstairs is a room wainscotted with oak. This old hall is the property of Mr. James Watts, and is being carefully restored by him. The members then visited Denton Hall, of the same date, now partly demolished, but still boasts its great hall and fireplace over fourteen feet wide. Denton Hall was the seat of the Dentons of Denton and their descendants the Hollands, of which family was Colonel Holland, governor of Manchester during the siege in 1642. The heiress of the Hollands carried the estates by marriage into the Egerton family, and they now belong to the Earl of Wilton.

Saturday, August 13th, 1904.

The members went to Sheffield, where they were met by Mr. E. Howarth, F.R.A.S., curator of the Sheffield Museum, who acted as leader.

The members thence proceeded by rail to Wincobank, and ascended the hill at the back of the village, where is a large camp, oval in shape, one hundred and fifty yards in one diameter by one hundred and twenty yards in the other, with a deep ditch and vallum, attributed to the Brigantes, a numerous and warlike British tribe which struggled fiercely against the Romans. The wooded hill, on which this camp is placed, has been formed by a "fault" which here occurs in the coal formation. The outer defence is a bank of earth, then a ditch, and within this is a wall formed of rough stones piled up with the large slabs. Mr. Howarth stated that he had spent some time in excavating this camp. On the outer face burnt stones and wood were found built into the wall. Fragments of dark grey Roman ware, with unworked jet and flint arrowheads, were also found in the ditch. Connected with the camp, and running from it north-east in the direction of Mexborough, is a bank called the "Roman Ridge," partly natural, and formed by the same "fault," but artificial wherever additional strength was required. On the south side, towards the Don, is a deep ditch. This camp has been claimed as Roman by some antiquaries, but no one who has studied the principles of castramentation adopted by the imperial rulers of Britain can imagine them constructing Wincobank, though they may of necessity have occupied it for a time to keep less desirable occupants out of it.

Mr. Leader, speaking of the great earthwork and its

associated vallum, says: "So enormous is the work that by our Saxon and Danish ancestors its origin was deemed supernatural, and so ancient that its ridge became for some distance the boundary between the parishes of Sheffield and Ecclesfield. Upon this eminence, doubtless, stood a Brigantian city, a hill-fortress." Mr. Howarth considered that it was, like so many contemporary works, a camp of refuge, to be used mainly when war was rampant in the land. When peace reigned the tribesmen would dwell in the vales below, where they could find pasture for beasts and grow food for themselves. Before leaving the camp Mr. Howarth said he had much pleasure in announcing that the Duke of Norfolk had presented the camp and adjoining land to the city of Sheffield.

Return to Sheffield was made by tramcar, and after tea a visit was paid to the excellent museum in Weston Park, which contains the Bateman collection of Derbyshire antiquities, consisting of skulls, cinerary urns, stone and bronze axes, bone implements, necklaces of Kimmeridge coal, and skeletons, most of which are described in Bateman's *Ten Years' Digging*. In the same building is the celebrated Mappin Art Gallery. A visit to the free library concluded a pleasant excursion.

Saturday, August 27th, 1904.

Between forty and fifty members of the Society visited Alderley Edge, where they were met by Messrs. F. S. Graves and C. J. Holt Gradisky, who acted as leaders. On leaving the station the party proceeded to Mottram St. Andrew, passing on the way many old black-and-

white cottages, the most interesting of which is the Clock-house Farm.

> Old in a fold, of woody hills,
> With tinkling rills,
> It lies remote, like an old boat,
> Keel upwards, far from harm.

On arriving at Mottram Common, Mr. Graves conducted the members to the old copper mines worked in prehistoric times, and pointed out where he had found twelve complete stone hammers and twenty fragmentary hammers. Whilst the members were present he picked up two of the latter, which he handed over to the Honorary Secretary. At Mottram St. Andrew the tools are of the most primitive kind. There they seemed to have used the first stone that fell in their way; instead of the carefully and laboriously contrived central and transverse grooves, we have the sides only deeply and roughly knocked out for attaching the withy and thongs. The men who worked here were either less particular or of an inferior status as compared with the miners of the Edge, where amongst all the hammers examined there is only one with a show of mere lateral notches. The metalliferous beds here contain lead and copper, the latter predominating. These copper mines are noticeable as having been the source whence Professor Roscoe obtained the new metal vanadium.

The members then walked to Higher House, formerly the residence of the Mottersheads, but now occupied by Mr. Gradisky. After tea on the lawn, they entered the house to inspect the many interesting objects of antiquarian value, consisting of rare paintings, arms, old china, and four grandfather clocks by local makers—Clarke, Manchester, 1766; G. Whalley, Manchester,

1770; Collier of Eccles, and Wigan of Colne. The garden contains some extraordinary growths of trees and shrubs, the result of the great ingenuity and perseverance of the late Mr. Taylor. The "weather vane" is a gilded holly. It has four pointers, north, south, east, and west, with a fish on the top. The "camel" was difficult to form, and took many years, but it is very life-like. There is an oak over eight hundred years old. The trunk is quite hollow, and measures eighteen feet in circumference. This tree has a summer-house built in its branches, twenty-five feet from the ground, approached by a staircase, and will hold about thirty persons standing. On a clear day the landscape can be viewed from it for fully fifteen miles around. At the foot of the staircase is a serpent carved out of an ash tree bough. The trees upon which "peacocks" grow are about one hundred years old. The "Siamese twins" are most amusing; the tree was originally a tall English yew, but the top of it dying, the branches were cut down and the two heads carved out, both being joined to the one trunk after the manner of the famous twins. Another tree is trained to resemble the figure of a lady, and known as Lady Raglan. The most curious part of this tree is that it has been removed to different parts of the gardens several times and replanted, without damaging it in any way. Another tree is trained so as to represent a small table laden with spirit decanters and wine-glasses, perfect in every detail; whilst others are trained to represent a whale, church spires, and monkeys climbing up a tree.

On leaving Higher House, Mr. Graves conducted the members by pleasant field paths to Alderley Edge. After passing Waterfall Wood, the party arrived at the site of the Old Smelting-house (Abbadine), and then inspected the interesting stone circles and the wishing wells and the

beacon, which stands six hundred and fifty feet above the sea-level. The beacon was in existence in 1578. Afterwards Mr. Graves pointed out the site of the neolithic settlement which he had discovered, and where he had found many most interesting flint implements.

Saturday, October 8th, 1904.

The Society visited the site of the Roman *oppidum* at Wilderspool, near Warrington, in order to view the results of the excavations and the objects found there towards the close of the season. The leader, Mr. Thomas May, F.S.A. (Scot.), who has charge of the excavations, pointed out the rubble foundations of the western rampart denuded of facing stones, which were exposed at intervals along the outer edge, and in a cross-section, for a distance of about thirty yards, and the similar foundations of the great angle-tower or expansion of the rampart, more than sixty feet in length and ten feet in width, near to the gateway at the south-west angle of the fortification. The base of a circular clay furnace, perforated round the edge with seven holes for supporting the small egg-cup shaped crucibles—of which a whole specimen was found—was next examined, and also four perforated clay floors, two inches thick and eight to twelve feet square. The holes in these were found to contain moulder's loam and iron nails. From these accompaniments, and their proximity to the smelting furnace previously uncovered, the holes are inferred to have been used in casting a number of small objects in lead or iron simultaneously, such as small pigs of cast iron, glandes or sling bullets, spindle whorls, &c. Specimens of the abundant masses of iron slag produced and ordinary mineral coal used in

the locality in Roman times, and fragments of the coarser kinds of pottery, such as amphoræ, mortaria, ollæ, cinerary urns, or cooking pots of smoke-tinted and of local red wares, were supplied to the members of the party desiring them; and portions of a paved courtyard adjoining the workshop and furnace for calcining flints and quartz pebbles in making crystal glass, and also of one of the perforated clay floors, which had been specially reserved for the occasion, were excavated.

Tea was provided at the Old Academy—now used as a literary club—and the collection of locally printed books preserved there was inspected. Subsequently the whole party adjourned to the local museum, in order to view the recent Roman finds from Wilderspool, the cases containing them being thrown open by the courtesy of the curator, Mr. C. Madeley. These were found to comprise numerous objects in bronze, iron, lead, glass, earthenware, and stone. Special attention was drawn to the rims of goblets of crystalline cut glass and small stone wheels for cutting and polishing them, fragments of pillar-moulded bowls of amber and olive-green glass, glass and glass-paste beads, a fragment of a bowl with the letters A L, lumps of crude glass broken from massæ, fragments of melting-pots with opaque white glass or enamel adhering to the inside, vitrified lining of a furnace with green glass adhering to it, and other evidences of glass-making. Bronze working and enamelling were illustrated by numerous specimens shown of enamelling fibulæ, studs, brooches, amulet-holder, fragments of crucibles with bronze adhering to the inside, a whole crucible with slight traces of bronze as well as fragments of black, turquoise blue, and cobalt blue enamel or frit found together near the furnaces and cobble-stone floor of the workshop. The evidences of iron working in the

shape of lumps of ore, slag, wrought and cast iron, implements and nails, and ore-pounding mortars, were pointed out, as well as the numerous examples of pottery, urns, bowls, cups, dishes, of red-glazed and black-glazed Samian, Castor, Upchurch, and locally made red wares, whole or restored, or in large fragments and bearing no fewer than one hundred and thirty names of potters and owners stamped or scratched upon them.

Friday, October 14th, 1904.

The opening meeting was held in Chetham Library, Mr. William Harrison, Treasurer, presiding. The Rev. H. Dowsett exhibited a so-called perforated stone hammer found at Holcombe in July last. Mr. T. May gave a description of the Roman remains recently found at Wilderspool, near Warrington.

An extract from Bishop Nicolson's Diary in Manchester in 1704, communicated by Mr. C. W. Sutton, was read in his absence by Mr. George C. Yates. (See page 186.)

Mr. Walter Aston gave extracts from a journal written by his father when on a visit to Altrincham in September, 1825. During his visit he was joined by his father, Joseph Aston, editor of the *Exchange Herald.* From this journal we gain a vivid insight into the life and manners of the time. He went by boat on the canal, and secured lodging at Mr. Worthington's, then took a walk through the lower town, and dined with "Old Amen," the clerk. On Sunday he went into Bowdon Churchyard, but had not been in it two minutes before the churchwardens came out and said he must either quit the churchyard or go into the church; or, if he would not make a noise, he

might go into the public-house. Setting the example, they walked in themselves, and, under pretence of searching for noisy company, each got a glass of John Barleycorn by way of making the sermon go down better. The next day he ascended the church tower, and was well repaid, he says, for eyes never beheld a more lovely prospect than presented itself. There was a charity sermon on the following Sunday, and a grand procession. First the apparitor in a red cloak and cock and pinch'd hat; then Mr. Leicester, and his nephew—who seemed more careful of his gown than appearances, for he had it tucked up under his elbows. After him came the girls, and then the boys, guarded on each side by men who carried long sticks, while the rear was composed of some hundred men and women. The Earl of Stamford, Lord Grey, Lady Jane Grey, Lord Egerton, and others are mentioned in the journal.

A discussion followed, in which Messrs. F. M. Jackson, A. Nicholson, G. C. Yates, and the Chairman took part.

Mr. C. T. Tallent-Bateman read extracts from a diary of the year 1634 with references to Lancashire and Cheshire. The authority for the diary is a manuscript in the Lansdowne collection in the British Museum entitled, "A Relation of a short survey of Twenty-six Counties, briefly describing the cities and their Scytuations and the corporate townes and castles therein observ'd in a seven weeks' journey, began at the City of Norwich and from thence into the north, on Monday, August 11, 1634, and ending at the same place. By a Captaine, a Lieutenant, and an Ancient Ensign, all three of the Military Company in Norwich." It was printed in full in Brayley's *Graphic and Historical Illustrator*, 1834, the local references occurring on page 205.

Friday, November 11th, 1904.

Meeting in Chetham Hospital, Mr. C. W. Sutton, M.A., in the chair.

Mr. A. Nicholson exhibited two picture postcards of Bewcastle Cross, which he described.

The Chairman exhibited a MS. volume of poems by Roger Brierley, of Burnley and Grindleton, a native of the parish of Rochdale (1586–1637), of whom there is a memoir in the *Dictionary of National Biography*.

Mr. Henry Taylor, F.S.A., submitted a paper, which was read by Mr. Isaac Taylor, on "The Ancient Crosses and Holy Wells of Lancashire (the Hundred of Salford)." (See page 73.)

A discussion followed, in which Colonel French, Messrs. J. D. Andrew, S. Andrew, J. J. Phelps, W. Harrison, D. F. Howorth, W. S. Churchill, and the Chairman took part.

Mr. Howorth exhibited a coloured reproduction of the new coat-of-arms of the Lancashire County Council. He also submitted copies of the "Aftenposten" of Christiania, containing views of the Viking ship discovered in the summer of 1903 at Oseberg on the Christiania Fjord; and read the following description of the same from a private letter received from Mr. M. Borrelly, of Christiania: I suppose that you have seen in the English papers that an old Viking ship was discovered last summer in a large mound near the old town of Tönsberg in the Christiania Fjord. They were not able to dig it out last summer, but in June this year the University commenced the work of excavating the ship, and now they have got so far that the greater part of the boat is visible, and as I suppose you would like to see some

views of the boat, I send you by book post two copies of the *Aftenposten* (the Evening Post) containing two very interesting pictures of the vessel. She is about nine hundred years old, and supposed to belong to an old sea king who has been buried in the vessel with his arms, dogs, horses, &c. Unfortunately the boat was found to have been broken into by ancient robbers, who have cut themselves into the chambered tomb amidships, consisting of thick trunks of oak, and carried away all the treasure; still a lot of interesting things from the old ship itself, also arms and utensils of various kinds have been and are daily being discovered. What is most characteristic with this boat is its beautiful wood carving, as fresh and sharp as if it should have been carved yesterday. You will see this from the stem of the boat. Her length is between sixty and seventy feet; unfortunately, the bottom is much damaged by the pressure of the earth and clay, or rather potters' clay, of which the main portion of the mound consists. As far as can be seen, there are holes for twenty-eight oars on both sides, fourteen oars on each side, and her crew would consist of some fifty to sixty men. As you are doubtless aware, we have a somewhat similar Viking ship at Christiania, which was excavated some twenty-five years ago, and dates from about the same period. She is a most interesting vessel to look at, and in a fairly good condition, although she was also found to have been broken into by ancient thieves and robbers. The roof or shed you see on the photos is for the protection of the fine wood carving which must be kept in a moist condition and away from the sun in order to preserve it from destruction. It has for the moment been removed from the stem of the vessel in order to have it photographed. The mound or tumulus in which the ship was embedded is situated slightly

north of Tönsberg, and bears the name of Oseberg, hence the vessel is called "Oseberg-Skibet—the Oseberg ship."

Saturday, November 12th, 1904.

A party of members of the Society visited Agecroft Hall, under the leadership of Mr. G. C. Yates, F.S.A. On arrival they were met by Mr. D. Morrison, mining engineer and agent for the estate, who conducted them over the building. Agecroft Hall, one of the finest old black-and-white timber and plaster halls now remaining in the neighbourhood of Manchester, is situated in Pendlebury, about four miles north-west of the Manchester Cathedral. It stands on a low tongue of land which here stretches down from Pendlebury into the flat valley of the Irwell. The west side of the building is close to the edge of a steep cliff. The three remaining sides were probably protected by a moat. The building is in the half-timbered style, and forms a complete quadrangle, measuring externally about one hundred feet square. The great hall, which has been much altered, is about thirty-six feet long, and twenty-seven feet wide. It has a flat ceiling, and appears to be of a later date than the rest of the house, which may be assigned to the time of Henry VII. The eastern side of the quadrangle contains several richly-carved oriel windows, one of which over the gateway has been engraved in Parker's domestic architecture. The chapel, now the dining-room, is at the eastern end of the south side of the quadrangle, and this chapel duly orientating, has in part fixed the aspect and prospect of the other apartments. Agecroft had originally open galleries as corridors in one portion of the quadrangle, similar to those which are seen

in so many of the old inns in England, but with the exception of one short length these corridors have now been enclosed. The hall contains some interesting paintings and ancient furniture.

The original owners of the manor of Pendlebury were a family which bore the local name, and was probably descended from one "Elias, son of Robert," to whom one carucate of land called "Peneburi" was granted by King John in the year 1199. It was succeeded by the Prestwiches, who owned the adjacent manor of Prestwich and the advowson of the church there. Joan, the daughter, and ultimately the heiress of Jordan de Tetlow, by his wife Alice, daughter and ultimately heiress of the last Adam de Prestwich, married Richard de Longley about the year 1360, and so brought the manors of Pendlebury, Prestwich, and Alkrington, and lands in those and the adjacent townships into the Longley family. This became a family of considerable importance in this part of Lancashire during the fourteenth, fifteenth, and sixteenth centuries, and is frequently mentioned in local deeds and public records. There were several members of this family rectors of Prestwich, and one of them, Ralph Longley, held the wardenship of Manchester from 1465 to 1481. Sir Robert Langley, of Agecroft, knt., who died on September 19th, 1561, left four daughters, amongst whom his large estates were divided. Anne Langley, to whom her father had given Agecroft, married William Dauntesey, a descendant of an old Wiltshire family. The Daunteseys held the estate for many generations, and it was the property of the late Robert Dauntesey, an old member of the Antiquarian Society. Twenty years ago the Council of the Lancashire and Cheshire Antiquarian Society was invited to Agecroft, and during the visit discovered an old chest full of

ancient deeds and documents, beginning in the year 1199, and coming down to 1811. Exclusive of loose papers this collection contained in all four hundred and fifty documents, of which over three hundred came under the designation of the Agecroft charters and deeds, the remainder relating to land in Poulton. The whole of these documents were arranged, and a catalogue of them made by Mr. J. P. Earwaker, F.S.A., who was one of the visitors on the occasion.

Friday, December 9th, 1904.

The monthly meeting was held at Chetham's Hospital, Mr. W. E. A. Axon in the chair.

Mr. Yates exhibited a George III. 5s. dollar (1804). During great scarcity of silver money in 1797 Spanish dollars and half-dollars were countermarked with a small punch of the king's head, and put into circulation as current coin of the value of 4s. 9d. This stamp having been counterfeited to a considerable extent, a different one was adopted in 1804; but it, in turn, having been counterfeited, the whole dollar was restamped with a fresh octagonal device—the king's head, &c., on the obverse, and on the reverse a figure of Britannia within an oval, crowned with a mural crown, and having the words, "Bank of England Five Shillings dollar, 1804." Bank of England tokens, value 6s., 3s., and other amounts were also issued.

Mr. C. T. Tallent-Bateman exhibited a series of old Manchester letters from 1698 to 1717.

Mr. May exhibited a flat stone, hand polished, of very hard grit, supposed to have been used in cutting glass, as it fits the grooves of a specimen of partially polished glass found near it. A small crucible, with conical base

of greyish, highly silicious clay, partly vitrified, with traces of bronze. Photographs of the perforated clay floors and base of furnace, with similar holes for pointed crucibles. All from the excavations on the Roman-British site at Wilderspool, near Warrington.

Mr. Charles Roeder read a paper on the "Beginnings of the Manchester Post-Office." (See page 1.)

Messrs. W. Harrison, A. Nicholson, and the Chairman took part in the discussion.

Friday, January 13th, 1905.

The monthly meeting was held in the Reading Room of Chetham Hospital, Mr. C. W. Sutton, M.A., presiding.

Mr. Herbert M. White, B.A., contributed a paper on "Mottes, or Norman Earthworks." There are four of these earthworks in Lancashire—at Gressingham Bridge (near Hornby), Halton, Melling, and Arkholme. They were evidently constructed to accommodate a small force, and thus distinguish themselves definitely from the prehistoric and British tribal camps, as well as from the known Saxon "burhs." In exploring these mounds many interesting objects have been found—flint arrowheads, bone needles, and bones and teeth of the ox, deer, boar, and other animals, besides numerous fragments of pottery.

Mr. J. J. Phelps read a paper on "An ancient sculptured stone in the Manchester Cathedral," which will be printed in a subsequent volume.

The Revs. H. A. Hudson and George A. Pugh, and Messrs. Pearson, May, Bromwich, and the Chairman took part in a discussion on the paper.

OLD MANCHESTER EXHIBITION.

SOME six weeks, in the spring of 1904, were made memorable to local antiquaries and to many thousands of Manchester men and women who love their grimy old city by the bringing together of a remarkable collection of pictures, books, coins, curios, and relics of all descriptions illustrative of our local history for a period of at least two thousand years.

To our member Mr. J. J. Phelps is due the suggestion of holding such an exhibition, which should commemorate the Society's coming-of-age, and at the same time strengthen and stimulate a healthier interest in all matters bearing on the history and development of Manchester and district. The Council, approving of the suggestion, appointed Mr. Phelps to act as honorary director on their behalf, and to the energy and zest with which that gentleman entered on the duties, with the assistance of a small but willing band of co-workers, the success of the exhibition was largely due.

By kind permission of the Art Gallery Committee, our Society was granted the use of the large room on the ground floor of the gallery in Mosley Street, and here, on March 29th, 1904, the exhibition was formally opened by a conversazione, with the President (Mr. Henry Taylor, F.S.A.) in the chair, who took occasion to review the career of the Society since its foundation in 1883. Looking back over the years which had elapsed since the Society was formed, Mr. Taylor acknowledged the services rendered by the late Dr. Renaud and the Rev. E. F. Letts. He spoke with much appreciation of the services of the Honorary Secretary, Mr. George C. Yates, and on behalf of the subscribers presented him with a handsome illuminated address, together with a purse of gold. Mr. Yates, in a sympathetic response, thanked the subscribers,

described his work as a labour of love, and acknowledged with gratitude the services of the Council of the Society, with whom it had always been a pleasure to be associated.

The following day (March 30th) the exhibition was thrown open to the public, and the steady stream of visitors which then poured in, and continued day after day, was abundant proof that the Society's effort had not been in vain. Originally a limit of ten or fourteen days had been fixed during which the exhibits might remain on view, but at the end of a fortnight, the interest of the Manchester public having increased rather than diminished, it was decided to continue the exhibition for a month longer. This decision was amply justified by the result, for at the closing meeting, held on the 11th May, under the presidency of the Lord Mayor (Mr. T. T. Shann), it was stated that no fewer than forty thousand visits had been made to the exhibition, a result upon which the Society may fairly congratulate itself. Of the excellent illustrated catalogue it may be recorded that several editions were called for before the public demands were satisfied.

In addition to the opening and closing meetings already referred to, mention should be made of the lecture by Professor Boyd Dawkins on "Prehistoric Manchester," and that by Mr. W. E. A. Axon on "The Development of Manchester," each lecture attracting a large and appreciative audience.

In conclusion it may be pointed out that in the "Old Manchester" Exhibition, held in 1887 at the Jubilee Exhibition, there were five hundred and fifty-six exhibits, and in the exhibition recently held six hundred and fifty-four. At a moderate estimate considerably under fifty per cent of the total appeared on both occasions. This seems to be worth noting, as it serves to indicate how numerous are these relics of the past, and confirms us in the hope that, some day or other, we may possess a truly representative and permanent collection of "memorials of old Manchester."

G. H. R.

The following report of a public meeting held in the Town Hall, on November 16th, 1904, is taken from the *Manchester City News*:—

The movement begun after the close of the Old Manchester and Salford Exhibition to secure a permanent local historical collection for the city was greatly advanced as the result of a meeting held in the Town Hall, Albert Square. The meeting was called by the Council of the Lancashire and Cheshire Antiquarian Society, the committees of the Art Gallery and of the Public Free Libraries, and others. The Lord Mayor was to have presided, but the pressing needs of the unemployed, a deputation from whom he had to meet, prevented his presence except for a moment or two. The chair was therefore occupied by Councillor Plummer, chairman of the Public Free Libraries Committee, and he read the speech which the Lord Mayor had intended to deliver.

The Lord Mayor expressed the belief that the object of the meeting would appeal strongly to all who were interested in the progress of Manchester. It was known, he continued, that there were many coins, records, curios, and monuments collected not only by various societies and public authorities, but by private individuals, which would be gladly contributed by their possessors if a home or central gallery could be provided for their permanent preservation. The need of a permanent museum of local history had long been felt. The City Art Gallery Committee was not able to devote funds to this purpose, but it was willing to provide room in which the collections for a local museum could be temporarily placed. He felt sure that eventually the city would provide for its artistic, literary, scientific, and antiquarian possessions in a manner befitting its dignity and reputation. In asking for money and contributions of relics of antiquity, portraits, drawings, maps, plans, and other objects to illustrate the history of the city, he felt that he could safely appeal to the justifiable pride that his fellow-citizens had in Manchester, in the remarkable character of its past history and in the prospect of progress that lay before it.

Professor Boyd Dawkins proposed a resolution that, "it is desirable to form a museum of antiquities, records, and other relics of bygone Manchester." Referring to the recent exhibition at the City Art Gallery, he remarked that it threw a new light on the old history of Manchester, and what was already known to a few specialists became stamped on the minds of a large number of the forty thousand persons who visited that exhibition. At the present time there was a very remarkable movement in Manchester, a movement quite unlike anything within his experience of the city. He believed that with the enlargement of the city and the great increase in its wealth and revenue an increased share of responsibility was being felt by all citizens, and that a local patriotism was being developed which would achieve the highest things. He took it that this movement to deal with the ancient history of the city was merely one move in the great change which was overtaking us, a change

which would be to the enormous advantage not only of the present condition of the city but of its future condition.

The Bishop of Salford (Dr. Casartelli) seconded the resolution. He said that Manchester in taking up this work was doing a work of expiation. The proper attitude which Manchester should assume in undertaking this work was one expressed by sackcloth and ashes. Who, coming into this great city nowadays, would ever dream or believe that Manchester was once an old Roman settlement or a Norman burgh, or that it had even a mediæval existence? The visitor would think that it was but a modern mushroom upstart. Under the stress of industrial development, and forgetful of those things which appealed to the mind and the imagination, we had allowed nearly all the old landmarks to be ruthlessly swept away. What had the city even in remembrance of its great citizens? How many were there whom we had not even done the poor compliment of naming streets or square after them? We had been searching after new high-sounding names, but what was there to indicate that De Quincey, Dr. Joule, Sir Charles Hallé, and others had been connected with the city?

The resolution was passed, as was also the following moved by Mr. W. E. A. Axon, and seconded by Councillor Butterworth:—

> That this meeting of citizens interested in the preservation of records and remains of bygone Manchester forms itself into a committee for the purpose of enlisting subscriptions for the housing of the same, and appeals with confidence to the people of Manchester and the neighbourhood for their support.

Mr. George Milner then proposed the appointment of an executive committee to take the steps best calculated to achieve the object in view, such committee to consist of the following persons, namely, the Lord Mayor (Councillor Shann), Councillor Plummer, Councillor Butterworth, Professor Boyd Dawkins, Messrs. W. E. A. Axon, Albert Nicholson, J. J. Phelps, C. Roeder, G. H. Rowbotham, C. W. Sutton, and the Rev. H. A. Hudson, with Mr. George C. Yates as secretary, and Mr. William Harrison as treasurer. Mr. Milner said that he was thankful that the scheme was likely to be carried out, because it would be an important addition to the institutions of Manchester. But, besides that, he specially wished the movement success for the reason that if rightly managed it might be made an important factor in the education of the people, particularly of the young. He was strongly of opinion that we too much overlooked in the elementary schools subjects directly connected with our own city. We were fond of teaching children the names of the Kings of Judah and the Kings of the Heptarchy, and while that was desirable, would it not be as well to tell them more about their own country, and especially about their own city? He might be wrong, but he thought that such subjects were seldom brought before children as they ought to be. Like charity, patriotism ought to begin at home, and true patriotism did begin there. Children in the schools might be asked such questions as "What is the size of Manchester?" "What was the position of

Manchester at a particular date?" "Why are there statues to Bishop Fraser, John Bright, Oliver Heywood, and John Dalton?" Such questions would take the child's mind back in the past of the city, interest him in the history of the city, and help him to become a good citizen. And when the museum was established let the teachers take the children there and speak to them of the objects to be seen.

Dr. Hoyle, in seconding the resolution, which was passed, assured the promoters of the movement that they would have the friendly co-operation of the authorities of the museum at Owens College.

Mr. Albert Nicholson, in proposing a vote of thanks to the Lord Mayor, which was agreed to, said that he thought the Bishop of Salford had dealt rather unfairly with their ancestors in Manchester. Many efforts had been made to have a central collection of the relics and records of the past. The old Natural History Society had one of the finest private museums in England, but unfortunafely it was dissolved. An attempt was made to get the Corporation to take it over, but public opinion was not then sufficiently interested. The Old Manchester section of the Jubilee Exhibition of 1887 was a great success, and at least twenty collections now existed where perhaps not six existed before 1887. Those twenty collections would be largely handed over to the proposed museum.

Messrs. Fletcher Moss, C. T. Tallent-Bateman, and W. Harrison also briefly addressed the meeting, and before its close Professor Boyd Dawkins and Councillor Plummer each promised £5 towards the fund.

Mr. Tallent-Bateman, alluding to his valuable collection of records and curios of the old parish of Manchester and other objects, remarked that he always considered that he held them in trust for the city.

CORRIGENDA.

Page 37. An advertisement in the *London Gazette* of September 29th, 1688, confirms the supposition that Edward Holland was landlord of the Bull's Head.

,, 39. In John Byrom's *Remains*, ii., 172-176, there are some letters respecting an inquiry into certain complaints against Illingworth's management of the Post-office.

,, 191. The report of the meeting on February 19th, 1904, at the John Rylands Library, has been accidentally omitted. At that meeting Mr. Henry Guppy, M.A., librarian, gave a most interesting address on "Block Prints and Block Books: the Precursors of the Type-printed Book."

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL.

THE Council of the Lancashire and Cheshire Antiquarian Society, in presenting their Twenty-second Annual Report, desire to congratulate the members on the continued activity of the Society, as evinced both in archæological work and in attendances at the winter and summer meetings.

The Society completed its twenty-first year of existence on the 21st March. It was decided to mark the event by a conversazione and an exhibition of objects illustrating the history of Manchester and its development from prehistoric times. By the exertions of Mr. Phelps, who was appointed director, and of a council of helpers, a very large number of objects was obtained on loan, and with the willing co-operation of the Art Gallery Committee of the Corporation, who kindly gave the use of a room in their building in Mosley Street, a representative collection was formed.

The conversazine was held in the exhibition room on the 29th March, and advantage was taken of it to commemorate the services of the Honorary Secretary for the last twenty-one years by the presentation of an address and a purse of gold. The success of the exhibition was so great that it was felt desirable to keep it open for a longer period than had been originally intended, and the Lord Mayor, in finally closing the exhibition, expressed the hope that the effort would be productive of a permanent local historic museum.

A public meeting was afterwards held in the Lord Mayor's Parlour relative to the subject.

MEMBERS.—Fourteen new members have been elected during the year, and twelve have been lost by death, resignations, and other causes. The total number of members is as follows:—

Ordinary Members	305
Life Members	43
Honorary Members	7

WINTER MEETINGS.—Ten meetings were held in Chetham's Hospital by the courtesy of the Feoffees. Other meetings were held in the City Art Gallery, and a special meeting in the John Rylands Library. The following list gives the titles of the papers contributed at the meetings:—

1904.

Jan. 29.—Annual Meeting. Notes on a Bronze Age Barrow, at Kenyon Hall, Winwick. Mr. Thos. May.

Feb. 19,—Block Prints and Block Books: the Precursors of the Type-printed Book. Mr. H. Guppy, M.A.

Mar. 11.—Maps and Views of Manchester. Mr. Chas. Roeder.

,, 11.—Edwin Butterworth, of Oldham. Mr. Giles Shaw.

,, 11.—On a MS. formerly belonging to Cockersand Abbey. Dr. W. E. A. Axon.

,, 29.—Conversazione in the City Art Gallery.

April 8.—A Sale of Scottish Antiquities. Mr. A. Nicholson.

,, 8.—Two Votive Rag-Branches in the Manchester Museum. Dr. W. E. A. Axon.

,, 8.—Tithe Corn Book for Manchester, 1584. Mr. H. T. Crofton.

,, 8.—Extracts relating to Deansgate from the Newton Manor Court Rolls. Mr. H. T. Crofton.

May 11.—Closing of the Old Manchester and Salford Exhibition in the City Art Gallery.

Oct. 14.—Altrincham and Neighbourhood, September, 1825. Taken from an old family journal. Mr. Walter Aston, F.R.I.B.A.

,, 14.—References to Lancashire and Cheshire in a Tourist's Diary of the year 1634. Mr. C. T. Tallent-Bateman.

,, 14.—The Manchester Diary of Bishop Nicolson, of Carlisle. Mr. C. W. Sutton, M.A.

,, 14.—The Latest Discoveries at Wilderspool. Mr. Thos. May.

Nov. 11.—The Ancient Crosses and Holy Wells of Lancashire (the Hundred of Salford). Mr. Hy. Taylor, F.S.A.

,, 11.—Oseberg Viking Ship. Mr. D. F. Howorth.

Dec. 10.—Early History of the Manchester Post-office. Mr. Chas. Roeder.

1905.
Jan. 13.—An Ancient Sculptured Stone in Manchester Cathedral. Mr. J. J. Phelps.
,, 13.—Mottes or Northern Earthworks. Mr. Herbert M. White, B.A.

SUMMER MEETINGS were held as follows:—

1904.
May 14.—Macclesfield.
,, 18.—Didsbury Church and the Old Parsonage.
June 11.—Kendal, Sizergh Castle, Levens Hall, and Borwick Hall.
July 16.—Snoddle Hill, the Roman Road over Blackstone Edge, and Windy Bank.
,, 25.—Denton Old Chapel, Hyde Hall, and Denton Hall.
Aug. 13.—The Ancient British Encampment at Wincobank and the Sheffield Museum.
,, 27.—Mottram St. Andrew and Alderley Edge.
Oct. 8.—Wilderspool.
Nov. 12.—Agecroft Hall.

OBITUARY.—The Society has lost the following members by death:—

Dr. Frank Renaud, F.S.A., died on March 21st, 1904, at his residence in Alderley Edge, in his eighty-fifth year. Born in London, he took his degree of Doctor of Medicine at Edinburgh University, and came to Manchester a young man of twenty-five, with a high record of ability. Success attended his practice in this city; he was soon appointed physician to the Ardwick and Ancoats Dispensary, with which is associated the Ancoats Hospital. In later years he held a similar position with regard to many other medical charities and institutions, including the Royal Infirmary, Henshaw's Blind Asylum, and the Clifton Hall Asylum. For many years he was consulting physician to the Warehousemen and Clerks' Schools, Cheadle Hulme. Outside the limits of his own profession Dr. Renaud was known as a writer of considerable ability on antiquarian subjects. A member of the council of the Chetham Society, he was the author of *A History of Prestbury*, which it published in 1876, and he edited Canon Raines's *Fellows of Manchester Collegiate Church*. He was one of the foundation members of our

Society and served on the Council from 1896, and communicated many valuable papers to the *Transactions*. He also edited the late J. S. Crowther's monograph on Manchester Cathedral, and wrote one or two small volumes on the history of the infirmary. Many years associated with the Portico Library in Mosley Street, Dr. Renaud spent much time, in the middle of last century, in the preparation of its catalogue, and engaged in a controversy in defence of that work. In public life his labours were not of the sort that figures upon platforms, though occasionally he was roused to speech at meetings of the Infirmary Board.

The Rev. Ernest Frederick Letts, M.A., rector of All Saints' Church, Newton Heath, died at the age of fifty-three, on April 2nd, 1904, at Bournemouth, where considerations of health had compelled him to take up his residence. He had resigned the living, but the resignation was not to take effect until the following July. Mr. Letts was ordained deacon in 1875 and priest two years later. During the first-named year he was chaplain of St. Edward's School, Oxford, from 1876 to 1878 curate of Wolvercote, Oxford, and from that year till 1885 a minor canon and precentor of Manchester Cathedral. For nineteen years afterwards he was rector of All Saints', Newton Heath, and during that period was instrumental in carrying out many extensions and improvements to the church. Since 1894 Mr. Letts served his district as its representative upon the Prestwich Union Board of Guardians, his third triennial term of membership having only recently concluded. He was a member of our Society from its foundation in 1883, and held the office of President in 1902. He contributed many valuable papers on the antiquities of Manchester Cathedral and on other subjects. He was joint author with his daughter of a local novel, entitled *Nicholas Mosley*, dealing with the civil war period in Manchester. Of unusual height and handsome person, Mr. Letts was an imposing figure when he rose to address a meeting, and his temper was of a

broad and genial type, befitting his stature. The esteem in which his parishioners held him was evinced by their placing a stained glass window to his memory in Newton Heath Church. This was unveiled on 5th November, 1905. In the *Manchester Courier* of 6th November, 1905, will be found an interesting article on Mr. Letts, by his friend Mr. H. E. Campbell.

Robert Dauntesey, who died on the 14th April, 1904, was the son of the Rev. Robert Pennyman Hull Brown, and grandson of Thomas Hull, M.D., and was born on the 10th July, 1839. He was formerly a lieutenant in the 5th Northumberland Fusiliers. On the death of his cousin, Mrs. Dauntesey Foxton, in 1878, he succeeded to the Agecroft estates, and assumed the name of Dauntesey by royal licence. He married on the 12th January, 1882, Mary Alice, daughter of Charles Marsh Schomberg, of Stone House, London. He joined the Society as a life member in September, 1883, and in 1886 invited the Council to Agecroft Hall, where his fine collection of family papers was examined. They were afterwards described by Mr. J. P. Earwaker, in a paper read before the Society, and printed in Vol. IV. of our *Transactions*. Mr. Dauntesey was a kind and popular landlord, and was highly esteemed by all who knew him. He was buried at Kersal Church.

Karl Lobenhoffer died on 3rd June, 1904, aged seventy-six. He was a native of Stuttgart, kingdom of Wurtemberg, and came to Hawthorn Hall, Wilmslow, as a master in the academy kept there by Thomas Somerville, LL.D. He married in 1857 the third daughter of Dr. Somerville, and resided at Wilmslow for the rest of his life, where his wife conducted a girls' school. He was a man of culture and wide reading, and was capable of much larger scope in educational work had it presented itself. He was a member of the Manchester Arts Club, and advocated the establishment of a municipal theatre. He joined our Society in November, 1892.

Richard Knill Freeman, surveyor of ecclesiastical dilapidations for the diocese of Manchester, died on 24th June, 1904. He began practice as an architect at Derby, and removed to Bolton before 1870. There he distinguished himself in his profession, building a hospital and several churches in and about the town. He effected alterations at Worsley Church, and built St. Margaret's Church, Hollinwood, and Holy Trinity Church, South Shore, Blackpool; also the Wesleyan chapel and schools at Pendleton, besides other ecclesiastical and domestic work. He was president for two years of the Manchester Society of Architects, and was a fellow of the Royal Institute of British Architects. He joined our Society in July, 1885.

George Haward Adshead died on the 17th September, 1904, at his residence in Bolton Road, Pendleton, at the age of seventy-eight. He was born at Saddleworth on 28th August, 1826, the son of George and Ann Adshead (*née* Winterbottom). He was for sixty years in the service of Messrs. Armitage & Rigby, cotton spinners and manufacturers, of Manchester and Warrington. A lover of art and literature, he collected an interesting library, and as a Congregationalist in religion he devoted much attention to acquiring books and curios relating to Puritan and Congregational history. This portion of his collection he left to the Lancashire College Library. He was a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society, and a member of most of the societies that have been formed during the last thirty years for the promotion of the study of the antiquities, traditions, folk-lore and dialects of Lancashire and the adjoining counties. He joined our Society in September, 1883, and for a time was a constant attender at its meetings, freely placing his wide and accurate knowledge of local history at the service of the members.

William Ford Smith died at his residence, Woodstock, Didsbury, on 29th September, 1904, in his seventy-fourth year, and was buried at St. Catherine's Church, Barton-upon-

Irwell. He was the founder and chairman of the firm of Smith & Coventry, engineers, Salford. He joined the Society in June, 1886.

John Harper, of Fallowfield, who died in 1904, was a member of the Society from November, 1888.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.—The Society have again to thank most heartily the Feoffees of Chetham's Hospital for their kindness in allowing the use of the reading-room for the winter meetings and for a room for the meetings of the Council; to the Art Gallery council for the use of their room for the Old Manchester and Salford Exhibition. Thanks are also due to the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress for the reception given by them at the closing of the exhibition; also to Mr. Walter T. Browne, the governor of Chetham's Hospital; to Mr. Daniel Morrison for his kind hospitality at Agecroft Hall, and to Mr. C. J. Holt Gradisky for the same at Mottram St. Andrew; to Mr. C. W. Sutton, M.A., for editing the *Transactions;* Mr. Wm. Harrison, the Hon. Treasurer; Mr. Geo. C. Yates, F.S.A., Hon. Secretary; and to Messrs. Seed and Long, the Auditors.

Dr. TREASURER'S ACCOUNT FROM THE 27TH JANUARY, 1904, TO THE 24TH JANUARY, 1905. Cr.

	£	s.	d.
Balance from last year	46	18	10
Subscriptions, 272 at 10s. 6d.	142	16	0
Entrance Fees	9	19	6
Dividend on £200 Corporation Loan	5	19	1
Bank Interest	1	17	9
Sale of Five Volumes of Transactions	2	5	0
Arrears of Subscriptions	13	1	8
	£222	17	10

	£	s.	d.
Expenses at Winter Meetings	6	16	9
,, Summer Meetings	1	7	3
,, Conversazione	11	14	0
,, of Old Manchester Exhibition	10	6	8
Postages: Hon. Secretary, Treasurer, and Editor ...	6	18	4
Clerical Help	8	8	0
Bank Commission	1	1	0
Cheque Book	0	2	6
Fire Insurance	0	2	0
Printing and Stationery—J. Roberts and Son	6	2	10
Subscription to Congress of Archæological Societies, three years	3	0	0
Archæological Index	1	17	6
Printing *Transactions*, Vol. XXI., on account	45	0	0
Balance (out of which is to be paid the rest of the cost of Vol. XXI.*)	120	1	0
	£222	17	10

CAPITAL ACCOUNT.

	£	s.	d.
Balance on General Account, as above (subject to payment of balance of cost of Vol. XXI.)	£120	1	0
Balance on Life Membership Account	19	19	0
Manchester Corporation Mortgage	200	0	0
Books and Volumes of *Transactions*, valued at	50	0	0

Audited and found correct, 24th January, 1905.

G. H. SEED,
WM. LONG.

* This, as afterwards paid, amounted to £66. 13s. 6d.

RULES.

Revised January, 1897.

1. PREAMBLE.—This Society is instituted to examine, preserve, and illustrate ancient Monuments and Records, and to promote the study of History, Literature, Arts, Customs, and Traditions, with particular reference to the antiquities of Lancashire and Cheshire.

2. NAME, &c.—This Society shall be called the "LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY."

3. ELECTION OF MEMBERS.—Candidates for admission to the Society must be proposed by one member of the Society, and seconded by another. Applications for admission must be submitted in writing to the Council, who shall, as soon as possible after the receipt of the application, determine the election or otherwise of the candidate. Each new member shall have his election notified to him by the Honorary Secretary, and shall at the same time be furnished with a copy of the Rules, and be required to remit to the Treasurer, within two months after such notification, his entrance fee and subscription; and if the same shall be thereafter unpaid for more than two months, his name may be struck off the list of members unless he can justify the delay to the satisfaction of the Council. No new member shall participate in any of the advantages of the Society until he has paid his entrance fee and subscription.

Each member shall be entitled to admission to all meetings of the Society, and to introduce a visitor, provided that the same person be not introduced to two ordinary or general meetings in the same year. Each member shall receive, free of charge, such ordinary publications of the Society as shall have been issued since the commencement of the year in which he shall have been elected, provided that he shall have paid all subscriptions then due from him. The Council shall have power to remove any name from the list of members on due cause being shown to them. Members wishing to resign at the termination of the year can do so by informing the Honorary Secretary, in writing, of their intention, *on or before the 30th November*, in that year.

4. Honorary Members.—The Council shall have the power of recommending persons for election as honorary members.

5. Honorary Local Secretaries.—The Council shall have power to appoint any person Honorary Local Secretary, whether he be a member or not, for the town or district wherein he may reside, in order to facilitate the collection of accurate information as to objects and discoveries of local interest.

6. Subscriptions.—An annual subscription of ten shillings and sixpence shall be paid by each member. All such subscriptions shall be due in advance on the first day of January.

7. Entrance Fee.—Each person on election shall pay an entrance fee of half a guinea in addition to his first year's subscription.

8. Life Membership.—A payment of seven guineas shall constitute the composition for life membership, including the entrance fee.

9. Government.—The affairs of the Society shall be conducted by a Council, consisting of the President of the

Society, not more than six Vice-Presidents, the Honorary Secretary and Treasurer, and fifteen members elected out of the general body of the members. The Council shall retire annually, but the members of it shall be eligible for re-election. Any intermediate vacancy by death or retirement may be filled up by the Council. Four members of the Council to constitute a quorum. The Council shall meet at least four times yearly. A meeting may at any time be convened by the Honorary Secretary by direction of the President, or on the requisition of four members of the Council. Two Auditors shall be appointed by the members at the ordinary meeting next preceding the final meeting of the Session.

10. Mode of Electing Officers other than the Auditors.—The Honorary Secretary shall send out notices convening the annual meeting, and with such notices enclose blank nomination papers of members to fill the vacancies in the Council and Officers, other than the Auditor. The said notice and nomination paper to be sent to each member twenty-one days prior to the annual meeting. The nomination paper shall be returned to the Secretary not less than seven days before the annual meeting, such paper being signed by the proposer and seconder. Should such nominations not be sufficient to fill the several offices becoming vacant, the Council shall nominate members to supply the remaining vacancies. A complete list shall be printed, and in case of a contest such list shall be used as a ballot paper.

11. Sectional Committees.—The Council may from time to time appoint Sectional Committees, consisting of members of their own body and of such other members of the Society as they may think can, from their special knowledge, afford aid in such branches of archæology as the following: 1. Prehistoric Remains. 2. British and Roman Antiquities. 3. Mediæval, Architectural, and other Remains. 4. Ancient Manners and Customs, Folk-Lore, History of Local Trades and Commerce. 5. Records,

Deeds, and other MSS. 6. Numismatics. 7. Genealogy, Family History, and Heraldry. 8. Local Bibliography and Authorship.

12. Duties of Officers.—The duty of the President shall be to preside at the meetings of the Society, and to maintain order. His decision in all questions of precedence among speakers, and on all disputes which may arise during the meeting, to be absolute. In the absence of the President or Vice-Presidents it shall be competent for the members present to elect a chairman. The Treasurer shall take charge of all moneys belonging to the Society, pay all accounts passed by the Council, and submit his accounts and books, duly audited, to the annual meeting, the same having been submitted to the meeting of the Council immediately preceding such annual meeting. The duties of the Honorary Secretary shall be to attend all meetings of the Council and Society, enter in detail, as far as practicable, the proceedings at each meeting, conduct the correspondence, preserve all letters received, and convene all meetings by circular if requisite. He shall also prepare and present to the Council a Report of the year's work, and, after confirmation by the Council, shall read the same to the members at the annual meeting.

13. Annual Meeting.—The annual meeting of the Society shall be held in the last week of January.

14. Ordinary Meetings.—Ordinary meetings shall be held in Manchester at 6-15 p.m., on the *second Friday* of each month, from *October* to *April*, or at such other times as the Council may appoint, for the reading of papers, the exhibition of objects of antiquity, and the discussion of subjects connected therewith.

15. General Meetings.—The Council may, from time to time, convene general meetings at different places rendered interesting by their antiquities, architecture, or historic

associations. The work of these meetings shall include papers, addresses, exhibitions, excavations, and any other practicable means shall be adopted for the elucidation of the history and antiquities of the locality visited.

16. EXPLORATION AND EXCAVATION.—The Council may, from time to time, make grants of money towards the cost of excavating and exploring, and for the general objects of the Society.

17. PUBLICATIONS.—Original papers and ancient documents communicated to the Society may be published in such manner as the Council shall from time to time determine. Back numbers of the *Transactions* and other publications of the Society remaining in stock may be purchased by any member of the Society at such prices as the Council shall determine.

18. PROPERTY.—The property of the Society shall be vested in the names of three Trustees to be chosen by the Council.

19. INTERPRETATION CLAUSE.—In these Rules the masculine shall include the feminine gender.

20. ALTERATION OF RULES.—These Rules shall not be altered except by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the members present and voting at the annual or at a special meeting convened for that purpose. Fourteen days' notice of such intended alteration is to be given to every member of the Society.

LIST OF MEMBERS.

The * denotes a Life Member.
The † denotes an Honorary Member.

Date of Election.	
November 3rd, 1899	Abbott, James Henry, Heaton Mersey
December 7th, 1888	Abraham, Miss E. C., Grassendale Park, near Liverpool
September 26th, 1902	Ainscough, Jas., J. P., Crawford House, Wigan
	Albrecht, Rupert, Seedley Terrace, Pendleton
April 7th, 1899	Alderson, Rev. H. E., St. John's Rectory, Cheetham
January 9th, 1903	Allott, Chas. Wm., 519, Stretford Road, Old Trafford
March 8th, 1901	Allott, Henry Newmarch, 83, Cromwell Road, Stretford
January 9th, 1903	Allwood, T. Massey, Haslemere, Lathom, Ormskirk
June 11th, 1886	Andrew, J. D., Lyme View, Davenport, Stockport
July 25th, 1885	Andrew, Col. James, J.P., Lynwood, Westminster Road, Eccles
	Andrew, Llewelyn, 13, Woodlands Road, Cheetham Hill
September 4th, 1883	Andrew, Samuel, St. John's Terrace, Hey Lees, Oldham
January 9th, 1903	Armstrong, Frank, 88, Deansgate, Manchester
October 8th, 1886	Arning, C. H., West View, Victoria Park
August 12th, 1901	Ashton, Thos., Savings Bank, Ashton-under-Lyne
January 29th, 1904	Ashworth, Mrs. A., The Park, Sharples
December 4th, 1885	Ashworth, Joseph, Albion Place, Walmersley Road, Bury
November 4th, 1892	Atkinson Free Library, Southport
November 5th, 1886	Attkins, Edgar, 69, Burton Road, Withington
September 4th, 1883	*Avebury, Lord, F.S.A., 15, Lombard Street, London
October 12th, 1888	Axon, Ernest, Lightcliffe, Hatherlow, near Stockport
March 21st, 1883	Axon, W. E. A., LL.D., M.R.S.L., 3, Albany Road, Southport

March 21st, 1883	*Bailey, Sir W. H., Sale Hall, Cheshire
February 7th, 1890	Barber, Robert, Winnatts Knoll, Prestwich
June 13th, 1885	Barlow, Miss Annie E. F., Greenthorne, Bolton
January 11th, 1884	Barlow, John Robert, Greenthorne, Edgworth, Bolton
March 21st, 1883	Barraclough, Thomas, C.E., 20, Bucklersbury, London
August 11th, 1900	Barrow-in-Furness Free Library
March 21st, 1883	Bateman, C. T. Tallent-, 40, Brazennose Street, Manchester
July 30th, 1885	Bayley, Charles W., Prestwich
August 11th, 1900	Bayley, William, Craybrow, Lymm
September 22nd, 1899	Beardwell, Arthur, 46, Slade Grove, Rusholme
December 1st, 1893	Beaumont, James W., F.R.I.B.A., Fulshaw, Wilmslow
March 2nd, 1900	Behrens, Harold L., West View, Victoria Park, Manchester
November 13th, 1903	Berry, Geo. Fredk., Portland Road, Swinton
December 7th, 1883	Berry, James, Mayfield, Grimsargh, Preston
April 12th, 1901	Bickersteth, Robert, 70, Cromwell Road, London, S.W.
November 3rd, 1899	Birkenhead Public Library
January 8th, 1904	Blackburn Free Library (R. Ashton, librarian)
January 19th, 1900	Bleackley, Frederick Brewer, Bower's Croft, Wilmslow
January 11th, 1900	Bloxsom, M., Hazelwood, Crumpsall Green, Manchester
December 14th, 1900	Boddington, Rev. E., M.A., Swinton
April 7th, 1899	Bolton Public Library
July 31st, 1886	Booth, James, 153, High Street, Oxford Road
September 4th, 1883	Bowden, William, Gorsefield, Patricroft
January 14th, 1898	Bowman, Dr. George, Monifieth, Old Trafford
September 24th, 1897	Bradbury, John H., 6, Bowker's Road, Bolton
April 7th, 1899	Bradford Free Library
April 12th, 1901	Briercliff, Thomas Hy., Ivy Dene, Haulgh, Bolton
November 5th, 1897	Brierley, Henry, B.A., Mab's Cross, Wigan
November 5th, 1886	Brimelow, William, Carlyle House, Bolton
May 7th, 1885	*Brockholes, W. Fitzherbert, J.P., Claughton Hall, Claughton-on-Brock, Garstang
February 5th, 1897	Brocklebank, F. W., 2, Fold Street, Bolton
November 1st, 1895	Bromwich, F. A., 587, Stretford Road
October, 7th, 1887	Brooke, Alexander, 34, Craven Hill Gardens, Bayswater, London, W.
September 28th, 1883	Brooke, John, A.R.I.B.A., 18, Exchange Street, Manchester
April 7th, 1899	Brooks, Captain S. H., Slade House, Levenshulme
June 20th, 1904	Brown, Fred, 2, North Road, St. Helens
July 14th, 1899	Brown, Joseph, J.P., Lancaster House, Upper Dicconson Street, Wigan

October 10th, 1890	†Browne, Walter T., Chetham Hospital, Manchester
September 26th, 1899	Burgess, John, Shaftsbury House, Cheadle Hulme
June 18th, 1890	Burgess, Mrs., Shaftsbury House, Cheadle Hulme
December 2nd, 1887	*Butcher, S. F., Bury
March 3rd, 1899	Butterworth Walter, Lea Hurst, Bowdon
March 13th, 1903	Canning, Wm., 5, Cross Street, Manchester
March 21st, 1883	Carington, H. H. Smith-, J.P., Grangethorpe, Rusholme, Manchester
April 7th, 1899	Carlisle Public Library
February 10th, 1904	Carr, Thos., M.D., 15, Albert Terrace, Blackpool
1904	Casartelli, Right Rev. L. C., Bishop of Salford, St. Bede's, Manchester
January 29th, 1904	Charlton, Wm., J.P., Burnage House, Levenshulme
October 8th, 1886	*Chesson, Rev. Wm. H., Alnwick, Northumberland
April 6th, 1900	Chorley Free Library (E. Mc.Knight, librarian)
January 13rd, 1893	Chorlton, Jno. Clayton, The Priory, Didsbury
March 21st, 1883	Churchill, W. S., 102, Birch Lane, Manchester
June 11th, 1886	Clarke, Dr. W. H., Park Green, Macclesfield
May 8th, 1896	Clayton, Robert H., B.Sc., Woodleigh, Blackfield Lane, Kersal
April 8th, 1904	Coleman, W. H., 78, Egerton Road., Withington
February 7th, 1896	Collier, Rev. E. C., M.A., St. Peter's Vicarage, Birkdale
December 3rd, 1886	*Collier, Edward, Glen Esk, Carlton Road, Whalley Range
January 11th, 1884	Collman, Charles, Elmhurst, Ellesmere Park, Eccles
January 11th, 1895	Columbia Institute, New York
March 21st, 1883	Copinger, W. A., M.A., LL.D., F.S.A., Kersal Cell, Broughton
June 6th, 1904	Coppock, Major Sidney, Prestbury Road, Macclesfield
November 7th, 1884	Cowell, P., Free Library, Liverpool
January 7th, 1887	Cox, George F., Albert Street, Manchester
March 21st, 1883	†Crawford, The Right Hon. the Earl of, Haigh Hall, Wigan
March 21st, 1883	Creeke, Major A.B., Westwood, Burnley
March 21st, 1883	Crofton, H. T., Oldfield, Maidenhead
October 8th, 1886	*Crompton, Rev. Alfred, M.A., Hinderwell, R.S.O., Yorkshire
October 10th, 1890	Cunliffe, William, Oak Lea, Albert Road, Heaton, Bolton
October 7th, 1887	Curnick, H. D., West Lind, Woodville Road, Bowdon
March 21st, 1883	†Darbishire, R. D., B.A., F.S.A., Victoria Park, Manchester

March 21st, 1883	Darbyshire, Alfred, F.S.A., F.R.I.B.A., Brazennose Street, Manchester
March 2nd, 1900	Davies, Samuel, M.S.A., 5, Alvanley Terrace, Frodsham
March 21st, 1883	Dawkins, Professor William Boyd, D.Sc., F.R.S., F.S.A., Fallowfield House, Fallowfield
March 21st, 1883	Dawkins, Mrs., Fallowfield House, Fallowfield
April 1st, 1887	De Trafford, Sir Humphrey F., Bart., Hill Crest, Market Harboro'
September 26th, 1889	Dean, John, 31, Market Place, Middleton
November 2nd, 1883	Dearden, J. Griffith, Walcot Hall, Stamford
September 14th, 1897	*Derby, The Right Hon. the Earl of, Knowsley
March 21st, 1883	*Devonshire, His Grace the Duke of, Devonshire House, Piccadilly, London
April 17th, 1903	Dickson, E. H. L., 44, Bolton Road, Pendleton
October 8th, 1898	Dodd, John, Werneth Road, Oldham
May 10th, 1904	Doxey, Rev. J. P., Christ Church Vicarage, Bacup
June 6th, 1904	Duncalf, Frank M., West Park Road, Macclefield
January 15th, 1886	Duncan, James, M.B., 24, Richmond Street, Ashton-under-Lyne
November 3rd, 1893	Edelston, John A., Norton Lodge, Halton, Cheshire
April 12th, 1901	Edwards, Francis, Norley Grange, 73, Leyland Road, Southport
March 21st, 1883	*Egerton, Right Hon. the Earl, F.S.A., Tatton Park, Knutsford
September 22nd, 1899	Elton, Thomas, Edenfield, near Bury
June 11th, 1886	*Ermen, Henry E., Rose Bank, Bolton Road, Pendleton
March 21st, 1883	Esdaile, George, C.E., The Old Rectory, Platt Lane, Rusholme
March 21st, 1883	*Evans, Sir John, K.C.B., D.C.L., F.R.S., F S.A., Nash Mills, Hemel Hempstead
December 14th, 1900	Evans, L. C., Town Clerk, Salford; Riverslea, Palatine Road, Didsbury
May 4th, 1883	Faithwaite, J. R., Manchester and Salfoad Bank, Mosley Street
	Farrer, Arthur, 224, Birch Lane, Dukinfield.
January 29th, 1885	Farrer, William, Hall Garth, Carnforth
October 11th, 1896	*Fearnhead, Joseph, 15, Park Street, Bolton
January 13th, 1899	Finlayson, John, 4, Woodlands, Daisy Bank Road, Longsight
June 20th, 1904	Firth, Daniel, Hall Green, Dukinfield
March 21st, 1883	Fishwick, Lieut.-Col. Henry, F.S.A., The Heights, Rochdale
July 4th, 1899	Flint, Henry, Park View, Wigan

July 19th, 1898	Folkard, H. T., F.S.A., Free Public Library, Wigan
	Fray, Albert H., Examiner Buildings, Strutt Street, Manchester
February 6th, 1885	French, Colonel Gilbert J., Thornydikes, Bolton
June 13th, 1885	French, Mrs., Thornydikes, Bolton
December 9th, 1886	*Frost, Robert, B.Sc., 55, Kensington Court, London, W.
May 4th, 1883	Gadd, Right Rev. Monsignor, V.G., Barton, near Manchester
March 6th, 1896	Gandy, Barton, The Elms, Brook Lane, Alderley
March 21st, 1883	Gill, Richard, 12, Tib Lane, Cross Street, Manchester
December 2nd, 1887	Gillibrand, W., M.R.C.S., Parkfield House, Chorley Road, Bolton
May 4th, 1883	Goodyear, Charles, 39, Lincroft Street, Moss Side
March 4th, 1898	Gradisky, C. J. Holt, 5, School Road, Didsbury
May 7th, 1885	Gradwell, Very Rev. Monsignor, Claughton-on-Brock, Garstang
January, 1903	Graves, F. S., Ballamona, Trafford Road, Alderley Edge
	Graves, T. H., Glen Moor, Wilmslow
June 20th, 1904	Green, J. A., Moss Side Library
September 18th, 1885	Greenhough, Richard, Church Street, Leigh
November 9th, 1900	Guppy Henry, M.A., Parsonage Road, Withington
June 11th, 1886	Güterbock, Alfred, Newington, Bowdon
	Hadfield, Henry L., 107, King Street, Dukinfield
December 14th, 1900	Hague, J. Houghton, Oldham
March 14th, 1902	Hailwood, James, Shakspere Cottage, Higher Ardwick
November 7th, 1884	Hall, James, Edale, Broad Road, Sale
October 10th, 1890	Hall, Oscar S., Park Cottage, Bury
January 25th, 1901	Hallatt, G. W. Tuxford, 8, King Street, Manchester
January 27th, 1899	Halliwell, Charles, 158, Oldham Road, Shaw
November 6th, 1892	Hamilton, Thomas, The Elms, Altrincham
March 4th, 1898	Hamnett, Robert, 24, Norfolk Street, Glossop
December 5th, 1890	Hanson, George, Free Library, Rochdale
September 2nd, 1889	Harker, Robert B., Riversdale, Blackfield Lane, Kersal, Manchester
February 6th, 1885	Harrison, William, 28, Booth Street, Cooper Street, Manchester
June 13th, 1885	Heape, Charles, Hartley, High Lane, near Stockport
December 7th, 1883	Heape, Joseph R., Hartley, High Lane, near Stockport
March 2nd, 1900	Heape, Richard, Hall Bank, Rochdale

October 10th, 1890	Heape, Robert Taylor, The Sparth, Manchester Road, Rochdale
March 21st, 1883	Hearle, Rev. G. W., M.A., Newburgh, Wigan
October 7th, 1892	Henderson, George, 18, Nelson Square, Bolton
December, 1902	Henn, Rev. Canon H., M.A., The Vicarage, Bolton
September 4th, 1883	Hewitson, Anthony, Queen's Road, Fulwood, Preston
April 12th, 1901	Heywood, Jno., The Pike, Bolton
April 12th, 1901	Heywood, Mrs., The Pike, Bolton
March 21st, 1883	Heywood, Nathan, 3, Mount Street, Manchester
May, 1902	Heywood, Thomas, 23, Queen Street, Oldham
March 3rd, 1899	Hindley, Charles E., Polygon, Eccles
October 8th, 1886	*Holden, Arthur T., Sharples Hall, Bolton
April 7th, 1899	Holt, Oliver S., Great Central Station, Marylebone, London
December 7th, 1888	Hornby, Miss Clara, 11, Beauchamp Street, Stockport
January 11th, 1884	*Houldsworth, Sir W. H., Bart., 35, Grosvenor Place, London, S.W.
March 7th, 1884	Howorth, Daniel F., 24, Villiers Square, Ashton-under-Lyne
March 21st, 1883	†Howorth, Sir Henry H., F.R.S., F.S.A., 30, Collingham Place, Cromwell Road, London, S.W.
April 12th, 1901	Howson, Rev. G. J., M.A., Christ Church Rectory, Salford
February 1st, 1895	Hudson, Rev., H. A., M.A , Holy Trinity Rectory, 445, Stretford Road, Manchester
March 4th, 1887	*Hughes, T. Cann, M.A., F.S.A., 78, Church Street, Lancaster
March 21st, 1883	Hulton, Sir W. W. B., Bart., Hulton Park, Bolton
	Hyde, Hon. John, F.R.G.S., F.S.S., Lanier's Heights, Washington, D.C., U.S.A.
September, 1904	Illingworth, Walter, The Woodlands, Blackburn
September 26th, 1889	Jackson, John R.,
September 2nd, 1899	John Rylands Library, Manchester
January 10th, 1902	Johnson, Miss Alice, 12, Castle Park, Lancaster
April 24th, 1896	Joynson, R. H., Chasefield, Bowdon
May 2nd, 1885	Kay, James, Lark Hill, Timperley
September 22nd, 1899	Kay, S., J.P., Charleston House, Devonport, Stockport
June 11th, 1886	*Kay, Thomas, J.P., Moorfield, Stockport
December 14th, 1900	Keen, James, Hindley Green
December 1st, 1899	*Kenyon, The Right Hon. Lord, Gredington, Whitchurch

January 14th, 1898	King, Alfred, Bleasdale, Garstang
October 10th, 1890	*Kirkham, William H., Hanmer Lea, Heaton Moor
March 21st, 1883	Kirkham, William Wright, 8, John Dalton Street, Manchester
January 26th, 1894	Knott, J. R., 103, Union Street, Oldham
November 13th, 1903	*Knowles, Sir Lees, Bart., Westwood, Pendlebury
March 7th, 1890	Lancaster, Alfred, Free Library, St. Helens
April 7th, 1899	Lancaster Public Library
October 12th, 1888	Larmuth, George H., F.S.I., The Grange, Handforth
September 24th, 1897	Larmuth, G. Harold, The Grange, Handforth
January 27th, 1899	Law, Miss, Roslin, Manor Avenue, Urmston
July 18th, 1885	*Lawton, Mrs., Altrincham
May, 1902	Leach, R. E., M.A., F.L.S., F.G.S., The Croft, Yealand Conyers, Carnforth
March 21st, 1883	Leech, Mrs., Elm House, Whalley Range
December 7th, 1883	Leech, Miss M. L., Glendale, Bloomsbury Road, Timperley
April 26th, 1889	*Lees, John W., Greengate, Chadderton, Oldham
June 11th, 1886	*Lever, Ellis, Colwyn Bay
March 31st, 1885	*Liverpool, The Right Hon. the Earl of, F.S.A., Kirkham Abbey, York
December 13th, 1901	Long, William, 77, Lansdowne Road, West Didsbury
March 21st, 1883	Lord, Henry, J.P., 42, Deansgate, Manchester
March 13th, 1903	Maclure, Alan F., 36, Brazennose Street, Manchester
November 4th, 1898	Macpherson, Donald D., Mancetter Manor, near Atherstone, Warwick
January 9th, 1903	Madeley, Charles, The Museum, Warrington
August 15th, 1885	*Makinson, W. G., The Florida, Ashton-on-Ribble
March 21st, 1883	March, H. Colley, M.D., F.S.A., Portesham, Dorchester
December 12th, 1902	Marquis, Jas. T., Manchester and County Bank Limited, Colne
June 6th, 1904	Marsh, J. Hedley, M.R.C.S., Jordan Gate, Macclesfield
October 9th, 1903	Martin, Dr. Richard J., Buckley House, Atherton
March 21st, 1883	Martin, William Young, M.D., J.P., The Limes, Walkden, Bolton
November 5th, 1886	Massey, Arthur W., 55, Cecil Street, Greenheys
January 9th, 1903	May, Thos., F.S.A. (Scot.), Lonmay, Lower Walton, Warrington
	Maybury, John Henry, F.M.S.A., 25, Booth Street, Manchester

November 1st, 1895	Mayer, Charles, Architect, John Dalton Street, Manchester
February 3rd, 1899	Middleton, Thomas, 8, Manchester Road, Hyde
April 12th, 1901	Miller, Dr. A. K., Holmfield, Darley Avenue, West Didsbury
March 21st, 1883	Milner, George, M.A., J.P., Elmscot, Timperley
March 21st, 1883	Moorhouse, Frederick, Westfield, Bramhall
December 14th, 1900	Morris, Wilmot Banks, 17, Acresfield, Bolton
January 8th, 1892	Moss, Fletcher, J.P., Old Parsonage, Didsbury
November 3rd, 1899	Moss, William J., 5, Cross Street, Manchester
January 9th, 1903	Mounsey, Miss, Grasmere, Manley Road, Manchester
January 9th, 1903	Mounsey, William, Grasmere, Manley Road, Manchester
October 9th, 1903	Mountain, A. H., Longley Lane, Northenden
April 24th, 1896	Mullen, Ben H., M.A., Peel Park, Salford
April 24th, 1896	Musgrave, James, Knowsley Grange, Heaton, Bolton
September 26th, 1902	Myers, T. Harrison, Lea Lodge, Preston
January 27th, 1893	Neal, Thomas Dale, Wilmslow
October 7th, 1887	*Neville, Charles, Bramhall Hall, Stockport
January 14th, 1898	New York Public Library
March 21st, 1883	Newton, Miss, Holly House, Flixton
June 26th, 1883	Newton, C. E., Watling Gate, Timperley
September 4th, 1883	Nicholson, Albert, Portinscale, Hale, Bowdon
April 7th, 1899	Nicholson, E. W. B., M.A., Bodleian Library, Oxford
June 20th, 1904	Nickson, Henry, Belmont, Seafield Road, Lytham
August, 1899	Nuttall, J. R., 13, Thornfield, Lancaster
March 6th, 1896	Ogden, J. N., J.P., Piccadilly, Manchester
October 8th, 1886	Oldham Free Library
January 20th, 1904	Oldham, J. S., 3, Beech Road, Hale Road, Altrincham
October 11th, 1895	Ormerod, Benjamin, Sandywood, Pendlebury
January 31st, 1890	Ormerod, J. P., Castleton, near Manchester
April 2nd, 1886	*Owen, Major-General C. H., R.A., Hanley, Camberley, Surrey
March 21st, 1883	Oxley, H. M., Deansgate, Manchester
January 11th, 1895	Parker, John, Springfield Lane Oil Works, Salford
January 26th, 1894	Parker, Thomas, 49, Trevelyan Buildings, Corporation Street, Manchester
April 12th, 1901	Partington, S. W., 11, Lethbridge Road, Southport
March 21st, 1883	Pearson, George, Marsden Square, Manchester
September 26th, 1889	Pearson, Joseph, 45, The Crescent, Salford
January 27th, 1892	Pearson, Mrs., 45, The Crescent, Salford

May 4th, 1883	Peel, Robert, Fulshaw Avenue, Wilmslow
	Pendleton, Basil, 16, Brazennose Street, Manchester
November 6th, 1876	*Phelps, Josh. J., 46, The Park, Eccles
	Philips, Mrs. Herbert, Sutton Oaks, Macclesfield
June 20th, 1904	Plummer, Henry, J.P., Hazeldene, Fallowfield
March 5th, 1886	Potter, Robert Cecil, Heald Grove, Rusholme
	Pownall, Joseph Boothby, Ashton-under-Lyne
April 7th, 1889	Preston, R. Basnett, F..R.I.B.A., 51, South King Street, Manchester
September 22nd, 1899	Pugh, Rev. George Augustus, M.A., R.D., The Rectory, Ashton-under-Lyne
August 22nd, 1903	Quine, Dr. A. H., 1, Sandy Grove, Eccles Old Road, Pendleton
January 9th, 1903	Radcliffe, R. D., M.A., F.S.A., Old Swan, Liverpool
October 17th, 1884	Reid, David, Bower Bank, Bowdon
January 13th, 1899	Ridyard, John, F.G.S., Hilton Bank, Little Hulton
September 29th, 1884	Rimmer, John H., M.A., LL.M, Bank House, Bickerton, Malpas
	Roberts, Fredk. Walter, 56, Mersey Road, Heaton Mersey
April 11th, 1902	Roberts, Samuel, Lees Road, Oldham
December 14th, 1900	Robinow, Mrs., 5, Rue Clément Marot, Paris
May 2nd, 1885	*Robinson, J. B., St. Elmo, 21, Moorfield Road, West Didsbury
December 21st, 1892	Robinson, Captain Marshall, 24, Nelson Square, Bolton
November 3rd, 1893	Robinson, W. H., Blackfriars Street, Manchester
February 4th, 1887	†Roeder, Charles, South Parade, Manchester
July 26th, 1884	*Roper, W. O., F.S.A., Yealand Conyers, Carnforth
May 4th, 1883	Rowbotham, G. H., 11, Wilbraham Road, Chorlton-cum-Hardy
April 22nd, 1884	Rudd, John, 172, Palatine Road, Didsbury
March 21st, 1883	Russell, Rev. Canon E. J., M.A., The Vicarage, Todmorden
January 19th, 1900	Sandbach, J. C. H., 25, Albert Road, Southport
May 4th, 1883	Sandbach, J. E., Albert Square, Bowdon
April 11th, 1902	Scarisbrick, Charles, Southport
April 14th, 1885	*Schwabe, Charles, Green Bank, Fairfield, Buxton
June 26th, 1883	Scott, Fred, 33, Brazennose Street, Manchester
November 5th, 1897	Seed, George H., Glendene, Darley Avenue, West Didsbury

November 3rd, 1893	Sever, W. M., Nant y Coed, Conway
January 20th, 1895	Seville, Richard Taylor, 49, Stockport Road, Mossley
June 20th, 1904	Shann, Sir T. Thornhill, J.P., Heaton Norris
March 21st, 1883	Shaw, Giles, 4, Ash Street, Southport
November 7th, 1884	Shaw James, 89, Walmersley Road, Bury
November 18th, 1884	Sheriff, Herbert, Westroyd, Prestwich Park
1903	Sidebottom, Henry Hastings, 38, Lancaster Avenue, Manchester
May 8th, 1896	Simpson, Jonathan, 14, Acresfield, Bolton
March 21st, 1883	Smith, C. C., Marsden House, Muswell Hill, N.
October 8th, 1897	Smith, Francis, Poplar Lodge, Ilkley
January 11th, 1889	Smith, William James, The Newlands, Leigh
March 3rd, 1889	Smithies, Miss, 21, Rectory Road, Crumpsall
April 6th, 1889	Smithies, Harry, 21, Rectory Road, Crumpsall
January 13th, 1899	Snape Henry, Broadhill Cottage, Arnside
March 21st, 1883	Standring, Alfred, LL.M., M.A., Dunwood Hall, near Endon, Stoke-on-Trent
June 20th, 1904	Stanfield, William, City Art Gallery, Manchester
March 21st, 1883	Stanning, Rev. Canon J. H., M.A., Leigh Vicarage, Lancashire
October 12th, 1894	Stead, Alice M., 3, Belgrave Place, Birkdale Road, Southport
October 11th, 1895	Stead, Edward F., 10, Adelaide Terrace, Waterloo, Liverpool
January 11th, 1900	Stocks, A. W., M.D., The Crescent, Cheadle, Cheshire
July 26th, 1884	*Storey, Herbert L., J.P., D.L., Lancaster
September 23rd, 1901	Stott, Henry, 9, Bromwich Street, Bolton
September 23rd, 1901	Stott, Julius, 342, Droylsden Road, Newton Heath
March 6th, 1896	Sutcliffe, William Henry, F.G.S., Shore Cottage, Littleborough
March 21st, 1883	†Sutton, Charles W., M.A., Myrtle Bank, Rainsough, Prestwich
November 9th, 1900	Swarbrick, John, 30, St, Ann Street, Manchester
April 2nd, 1886	*Tatham, Leonard, M.A., 1, St. James's Square, Manchester
October 12th, 1888	Tatton, Thomas E. Wythenshawe Hall
November 7th, 1884	Taylor, Alexander, Fern Royd, Walmersley Road, Bury
January 29th, 1902	Taylor, George, Buena Vista, Withington
March 21st, 1883	Taylor, Henry, F.S.A., Braeside, Tunbridge Wells, and Birklands, Southport
October 11th, 1896	Taylor, Isaac, 22, Birch Grove, Rusholme
November 1st, 1895	Taylor, J. C., The Gables, Bramhall Park, Cheadle Hulme

March 21st, 1883	Taylor, Joshua, 277, Moorside, Droylsden
April 7th, 1899	Taylor, Walter, Milverton Lodge, Victoria Park, Manchester
October 8th, 1897	Taylor, Walter T., Greenmount, Westgate Avenue, Bolton
January 9th, 1903	Telford, Robert, 14, Lansdowne Road, West Didsbury
January 9th, 1903	Thomas, Joseph, Garstang
April 11th, 1902	Thompson, Jabez, Abbotsford, Cuddington, Northwich
April 17th, 1903	Tong, Livsey, L.R.C.P., 551, Chorley Old Road, Bolton
October 8th, 1896	*Tristram, William H., New Bridge Mill, Breightmet, Bolton
August 22nd, 1903	Turnbull, William, Fernclough, Stubbins
November 6th, 1896	Turner, James, Halliwell Street, Corporation Street, Manchester
February 5th, 1886	Turner, William, Purby Chase, Atherstone
July 31st, 1886	Underdown, H. W., Birkbeck Bank Chambers, Southampton Buildings, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.
December 7th, 1883	Waddington, William Angelo, St. Ann's Square, Manchester
July 8th, 1899	Wagstaff, John, Mottram House, Mottram-in-Longdendale
July 31st, 1886	Wales, George Carew, Conservative Club, Manchester
April 12th, 1901	Wall, William, Upper Dicconson Street, Wigan
	Walmsley, Oswald, Prestwich Park
March 2nd, 1894	Warburton, Samuel, Egerton Lodge, Bury Old Road, Manchester
November 6th, 1885	Warburton, W. Daulby, M.A., 83, Bignor Street, Cheetham
March 21st, 1883	*Ward, James, B.A., Avenue Terrace, Leigh
June 11th, 1886	*Waters, Edwin H., Millmead, Axmouth, Colyford, Devon
July 31st, 1886	Watson, W. Alfred, 11, Mayfield Grove, Embden Street, Hulme
October 12th, 1888	*Watt, Miss, Speke Hall, near Liverpool
April 6th, 1894	Watts, James, Abney Hall, Cheadle
September 24th, 1897	*Wearing, James W., M.A., J.P., Fleet Square, Lancaster
June 18th, 1898	Webster, W. D., Home Court, 24, Palace Road, Streatham Hill, S.W.
	Weeks, Wm. Self, F.R.H.S., Church Brow, Clitheroe

December 1st, 1899	Whitaker, James, 5, Clifton Road, Chorlton-cum-Hardy
November 6th, 1896	Whowell, Fred, Crouch Hey, Tottington, Bury
	Wild, Professor R. B., Broom House, Fallowfield
December 21st, 1892	Wilkinson, J. P., C.E., 7, Arcade Chambers, St. Mary's Gate, Manchester
March 21st, 1883	*Wood, R. H., F.S.A., Belmont, Sidmouth, South Devon
January 26th, 1900	Wood, Thomas H., 378, St. Helens Road, Bolton
April 11th, 1890	Woodhouse, Samuel T., Abbotsley, Knutsford
March 21st, 1883	Worthington, Thomas, F.R.I.B.A., Broomfield, Alderley Edge
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May 4th, 1883	Wright, T. Frank, 33, Whitelow Road, Chorlton-cum-Hardy
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MANCHESTER:
RICHARD GILL, PRINTER, TIB LANE,
CROSS STREET.

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OF

ARCHÆOLOGICAL PAPERS

PUBLISHED

IN

1903

[BEING THE THIRTEENTH ISSUE OF THE SERIES AND COMPLETING THE INDEX FOR THE PERIOD 1891–1903]

COMPILED BY
GEORGE LAURENCE GOMME, F.S.A.

PUBLISHED BY
ARCHIBALD CONSTABLE & COMPANY LTD
16 JAMES STREET, HAYMARKET, S.W.
UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE CONGRESS OF
ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETIES IN UNION WITH
THE SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES
1904

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NOTE

THIS Index was begun under the auspices of the Congress of Archæological Societies in union with the Society of Antiquaries. Its success being assured, the Congress have placed it in the hands of the publishers to continue yearly.

The value of the Index to archæologists is now recognised. Every effort is made to keep its contents up to date and continuous, but it is obvious that the difficulties are great unless the assistance of the societies is obtained. If for any reason the papers of a society are not indexed in the year to which they properly belong, the plan is to include them in the following year; and whenever the papers of societies are brought into the Index for the first time they are then indexed from the year 1891.

By this plan it will be seen that the year 1891 is treated as the commencing year for the Index, and that all transactions published in and since that year will find their place in the series.

To make this work complete an index of the transactions from the beginning of archæological societies down to the year 1890 is needed. This work is now going through the press.

Societies will greatly oblige by communicating any omissions or suggestions to the editor, LAURENCE GOMME, F.S.A., 24, Dorset Square, London, N.W.

Single copies of the yearly Index from 1891 may be obtained. Many of the Societies in union with the Society of Antiquaries take a sufficient number of copies of the yearly Index to issue with their transactions to each of their members. The more this plan is extended the less will be the cost of the Index to each society.

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Fibulæ : *Cowper, Haverfield.*
Forts : *Christison, Haverfield.*
Inscriptions : *Haverfield.*
Langton : *Mortimer.*
Lighthouse : *Ely.*
Odsey : *Fordham.*
Pavements : *March.*
Potter's field : *Hughes.*
Rhineland : *Lewis.*
Ribchester : *Haverfield.*
Roads : *Barnes, Martin, Tingey.*
Silchester : *Hope.*
Vases : *Johnston.*

Roman remains—
Villas : *Carker, Brakspear, Engelheart.*
Wareham : *Bennett.*
Weights : *May.*
Wells : *Barker.*
Rome : *Aitchison.*
Rothley : *Merttens.*
Rotuma island, races of : *Duckworth.*
Roydon : *Gould.*
Rutlandshire : *Haines.*

St. Bees : *Parker, Thompson.*
St. Davids : *Fryer.*
St. Ives : *Evelyn-White.*
Salcombe Regis : *Morshead.*
Salisbury : *Wordsworth.*
Scotland : *Coles, McDonald, MacDonald. See* "Banffshire," "Glasgow," "Kintyre," "Orkney," "Tealing," "Tyrie."
Seaford : *Boyson.*
Seals : *Millar, Vigors, Warren Wordsworth.*
Selby : *Fowler.*
Shap : *Whitwell.*
Shermanbury : *Johnston.*
Shifnal : *Fletcher.*
Shingay : *Palmer.*
Shrewsbury : *Dillon, Drinkwater, Fletcher, Morris, Parry, Southam.*
Shrivenham : *Niven.*
Shropshire : *Auden, Fletcher, Phillips, Wylie. See* "Albright," "Battlefield," "Claverley," "Ludlow," "Shifnal," "Shrewsbury," "Whitchurch," "Wor[field."
Siam : *Lyle.*
Sidbury : *Cave, Morshead.*
Sidmouth : *Morshead.*
Silchester : *Hope.*
Somersetshire : *Bates, Coleman, Fry, Spencer. See* "Bath," "Bawdrip," "Broomfield," "Castle Neroche," "Clevedon," "Clifton Burwalls," "Evercreach," "Glastonbury," "Stokeleigh," "Wadham," "Winsham."
Spoons (silver) : *Trapnell.*
Staffordshire : *Boyd, Wrottesley. See* "Chell," "Eccleshall," "Weston-under-Lizard."
Stamford : *Grueber.*
Stoke Poges : *Fowler.*
Stokeleigh : *Morgan.*
Stonehenge : *Blow, Lockyer.*
Suffolk : *Hancox, Redstone. See* "Ipswich," "Lowestoft."

Sundials : *Acland.*
Surrey : *See* "Chislehurst," "Weybridge."
Susex : *Breach, Dawson. See* "Battle," "Bodiam," "Chichester," "Cuckfield," "Homestall," "Horsham," "Icklesham," "Lewes," "Littlehampton," "Lyminster," "New Shoreham," "Pagham," "Peasmarsh," "Ringmer," "Seaford," "Shermanbury," "Warningcamp," "Worthing."
Swaffham Prior : *Allix.*
Swavesey : *Palmer.*

Taplow : *Read.*
Tarrant Rushton : *Penny.*
Tawton (South) : *Lega-Weekes.*
Tealing : *Dowden.*
Tewkesbury : *Bazeley, Dowdeswell, Were.*
Thirlmere : *Collingwood.*
Tilbury (East) : *Round.*
Tilety : *Waller.*
Tin : *Rogers.*
Tollard Royal : *Barnes.*
Tolleshunt Major : *F.*
Torrington (Great) : *Doe.*
Truro : *Jennings.*
Twickenham : *Kirby.*
Tyrie : *Young.*

Urswick : *Gaythorpe.*

Venice : *Tabor.*

Wadham : *Grueber.*
Wales : *Allen, Haverfield, Lewis, Moore, Owen, Phillips. See* "Aberystwyth," "Anglesey," "Brecon," "Caerwent," "Carno," "Gilestone," "Gresford," "Guilsfield," "Llandrinio," "Llantwit Major," "Montgomeryshire," "Rhyd Llydan." "St. Davids," "Ystafell-fach," "Ystrad Yw."
Walmer : *Woodruff.*
Warboys : *Ladds.*
Wareham : *Bennett.*
Warningcamp : *Johnston.*
Westmorland : *Farrer, Hodgson, Hughes, Morris. See* "Bampton," "Brougham," "Kendal," "Shap."
Weston-under-Lizard : *Bridgeman.*
Weybridge : *Kershaw.*
Whitchurch : *Thompson.*
Whitechurch Canonicorum : *Druit.*
Wills : *Brown, Gaskoin, Rice.*
Wilts : *Powell. See* "Box," "Cranborne Chace," "Durnford," "Durrington," "Erlestoke," "Great Bedwyn," "Knowle," "Purton," "Salisbury," "Stonehenge."
Wimborne : *Fletcher.*
Winsham : *Bond.*
Wistow : *Noble.*
Woad : *Plowright.*
Woodsford : *Moule.*
Wookey Hole : *Mansel-Pleydell.*
Wootton Glanville : *Mayo.*
Worcester : *Floyer.*
Worcestershire : *Humphreys. See* "Pershore," "Worcester."
Worfield : *Walters.*
Worthing : *Haverfield.*

Yorkshire : *Bilson, Bowles, Brown, Clay, Cole, Collier, Farrer, Glynne, Hawkesbury, Humbeston, Sheppard, Poppleton, Stephenson, Wordsworth. See* "Burlington," "Fishlake," "Hardwick," "Harpham," "Kirklees," "Langton," "Methley," "Pocklington," "Selby."
Youghall : *Buckley, Dxy, Orpen, Westropp.*
Ystafell-fach : *Lewis.*
Ystrad Yw : *Lloyd.*

Butler and Tanner The Selwood Printing Works Frome and London

1913 K ✓